



This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

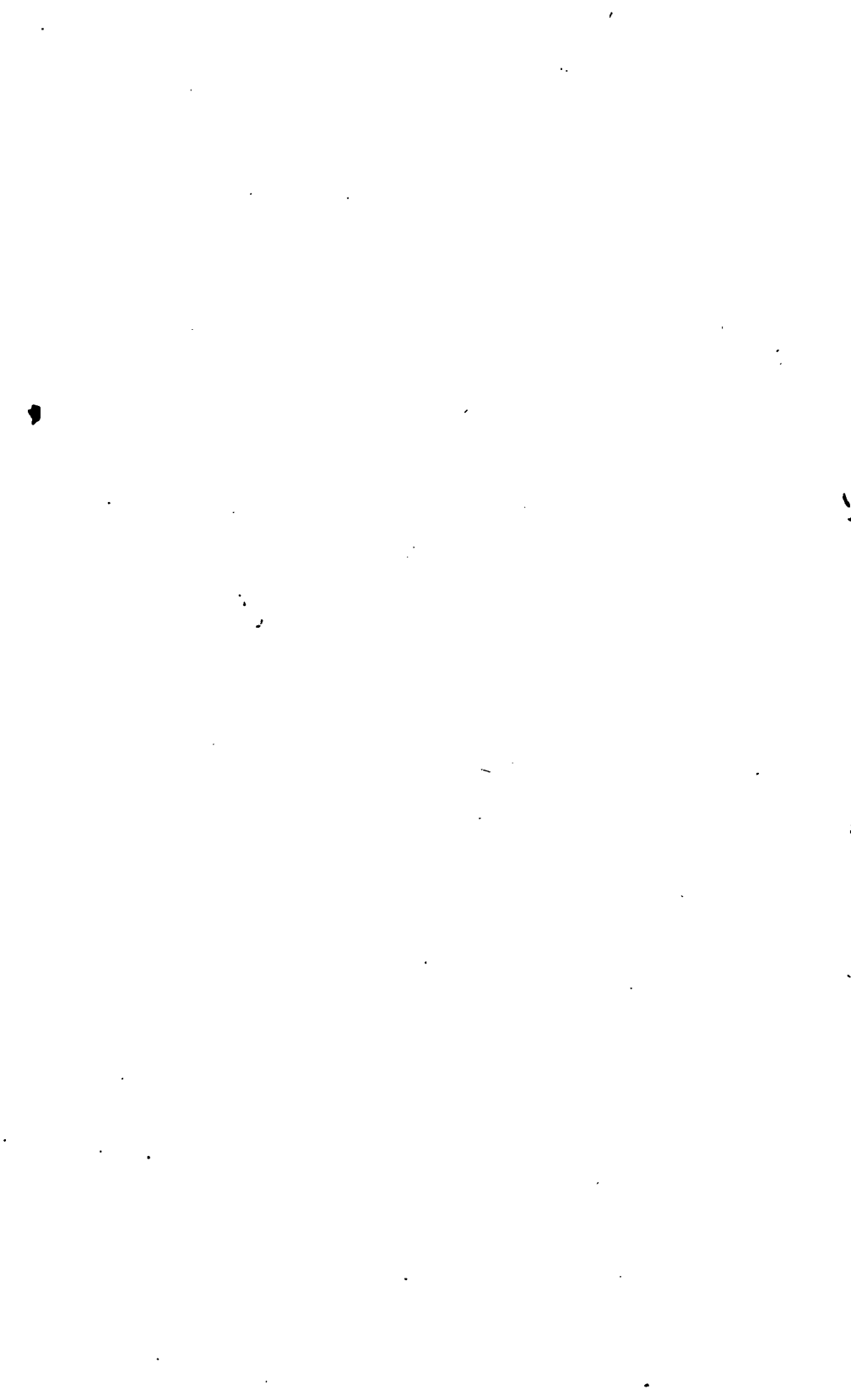
- + *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.
- + *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.
- + *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.
- + *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

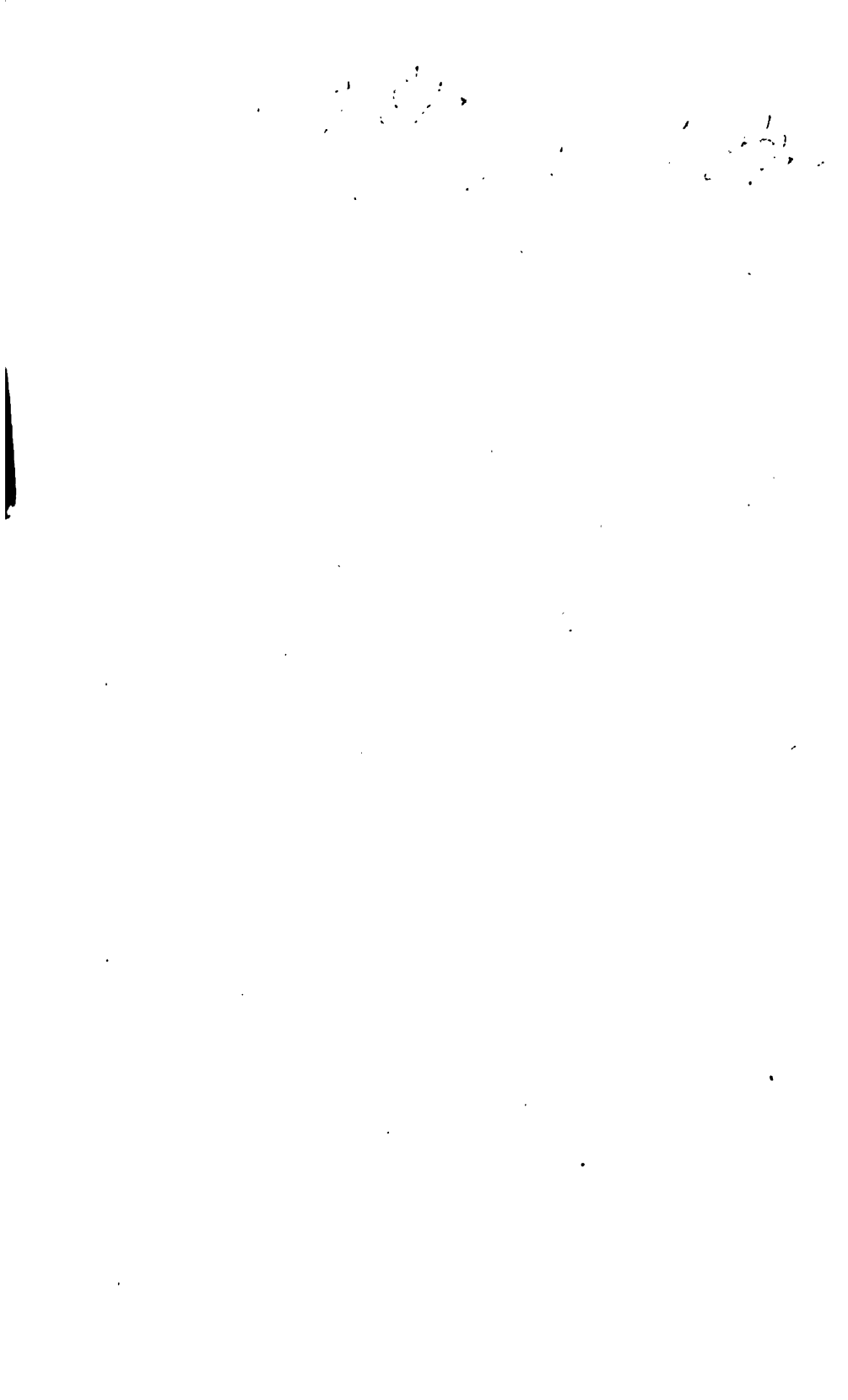
About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at <http://books.google.com/>

Bought of U Maggs. 1886.

3/6

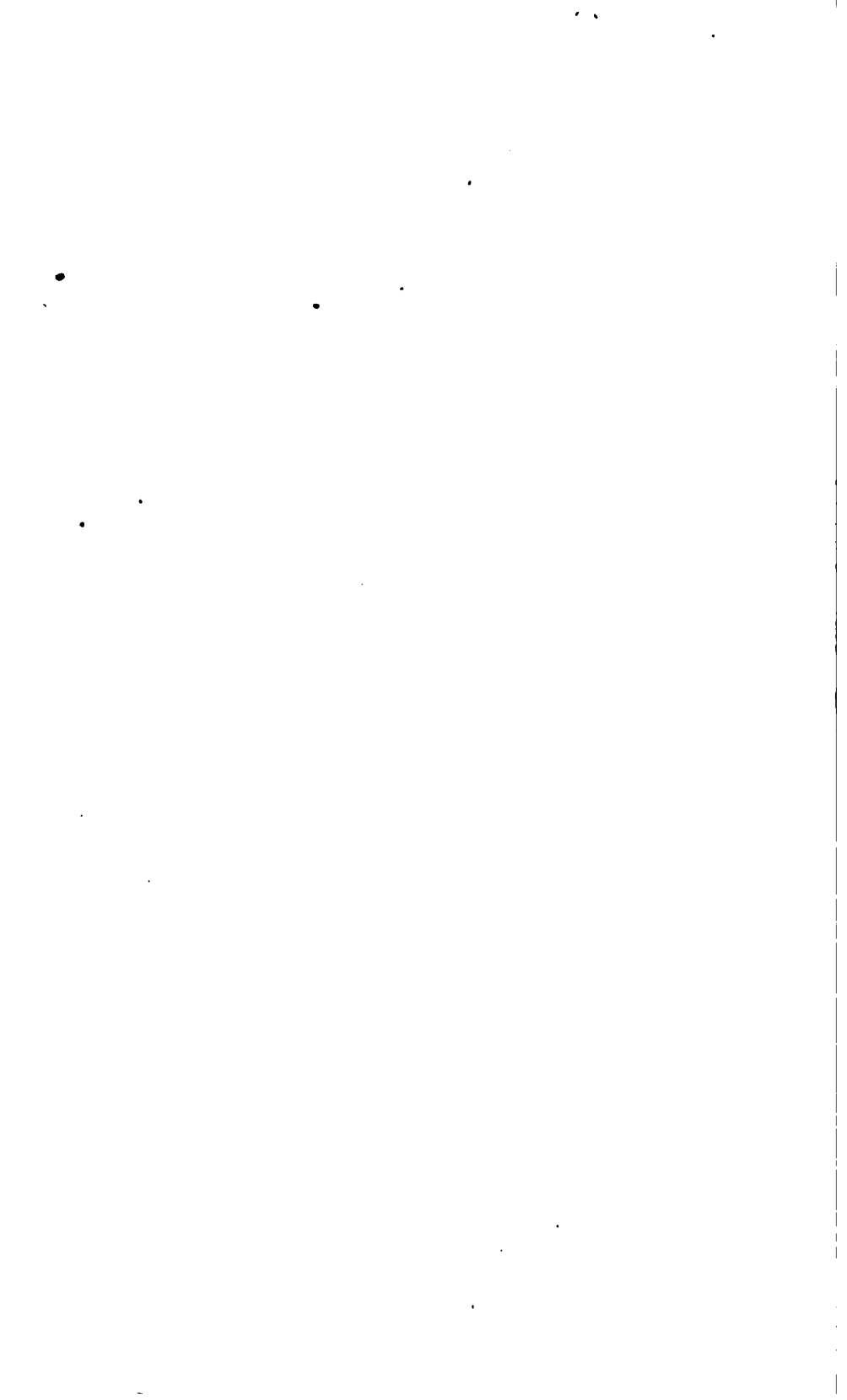




WALKS IN OXFORD.

**ILLUSTRATED WITH THIRTEEN ENGRAVINGS,
AND A LARGE MAP.**

IN TWO VOLUMES.





Engraved by G. B. Shaw, from a drawing by G. B. Shaw.

For the Work in Church, Published by R. Pearson, High Street, 1877.

RADCLIFFE LIBRARY, ALL SOULS COLLEGE &c.

Walks in Oxford ;
COMPRISING AN
ORIGINAL, HISTORICAL, AND DESCRIPTIVE
ACCOUNT
OF THE
COLLEGES, HALLS, AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS
OF
THE UNIVERSITY :
WITH AN
INTRODUCTORY OUTLINE
OF THE
ACADEMICAL HISTORY OF OXFORD.
TO WHICH ARE ADDED,
A CONCISE HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION
OF
THE CITY,
AND
DELINEATIONS IN THE ENVIRONS
OF
OXFORD.

BY W. M. WADE.

VOL. I.

OXFORD,

PRINTED BY W. BAXTER,

FOR R. PEARSON, HIGH STREET :

SOLD ALSO BY LAW AND WHITTAKER, AVE MARIA LANE, LONDON.

1817.



Handwritten notes:
Oxford Bodleian Lib.
1817.



INTRODUCTION.

SCARCELY any question of English local history has been a more fruitful source of controversial discussion, than that which has for its object to ascertain, with precision, when, and by whom, the University of Oxford was founded. Some writers have not scrupled to place its origin in the twelfth century before Christ. They assert, that when, in the year of the world 2855, Brutus the Trojan, great grandson of Æneas, came into this island, he was accompanied by certain Greek Philosophers, who first settled at a place, called from their establishment, *Greeklade*, but afterwards removed to a situation close by the spot now occupied by Oxford; where they established Schools, and to which, on account of its

pleasantness, they gave the name of Bellositum. This opinion, to which Cay, Fox, and Twyne, give their support, is maintained by J. Rouse, or Ross, of Warwick, who lived in the reign of Edward IV. and is styled by Dugdale, a famous antiquary*. Others ascribe the foundation of the University to ARVIRAGUS, a British King, contemporary with the Roman Emperor Domitian. A third party, rejecting these accounts as wholly fabulous, maintains, without, however, pretending to fix the precise time of institution, that the University was founded shortly after the introduction of Christianity into Britain.

It can scarcely be necessary to observe, that all these accounts of the origin of this celebrated literary establishment rest on the

* " In Brompton's Chronicle, written before Rouse's time, it is asserted, that, before the year of Christ 632, certain Schools for Greek and Latin were established at Greeklade, (Cricklade in Wiltshire,) and Latinlade, (Lechlade in Gloucestershire;) but no mention is made of such Schools being removed to Bellositum, Ryd-y-chen, or Oxenford."

uncertain ground of tradition. The last of them is not, however, so wildly improbable as the two that precede; since it is generally acknowledged, that the existence, on or very near the spot occupied by modern Oxford, of one of those Institutions, distinguished in ancient times by the name of *Studia Generalia*^b, may be traced to a period far more remote than any of which satisfactory records now exist. But it is not till near the end of the ninth century that we find the light of authentic history beginning to beam on the academical annals of Oxford. At that time the Schools, which had subsisted here for ages, had sunk into that state of extreme depression, into which, in a kingdom long harassed by successive hordes of ignorant and savage invaders, the seats of learning might naturally be expected to fall. In this melancholy condi-

^b General studies, i. e. places of general learning, a name bestowed on the higher public Schools, previously to the adoption of the term University. The latter term originated either in the universality of sciences taught, or in what was taught being learned *ab universis scholaribus*.

tion they are said to have been found by King ALFRED; who, having, by the complete overthrow and consequent expulsion of the Danes, succeeded in restoring to his dominions the long untasted blessings of peace and security, had leisure to meditate on the best means of promoting the welfare of his subjects. And this wise, this truly patriotic King had not to learn that a right education is the greatest of earthly blessings, the sure basis of national as well as of individual prosperity and happiness. He knew, that with the intellectual character, the external circumstances of a people are always found to improve. Alfred had himself experienced the want of proper instructors. In his youthful days, so general and so extreme was the ignorance which prevailed, that, between the Thames and the Humber no person could be found capable of translating a Latin letter. Alfred reached the twelfth year of his age without having learned to read. And although, after having, with his step-mother's assistance, mastered the rudiments of Saxon literature, he profited by the leisure that he

enjoyed during the successive reigns of his two elder brothers, to improve himself in other branches of knowledge, as far as could be done at an æra so peculiarly unpropitious to literary pursuits ; yet Alfred ever reckoned among his misfortunes, that, “ when he had youth, and leisure, and permission, and inclination to learn, he could not find instructors.” One of the first objects, therefore, which, after the establishment of peace, engaged the attention of this illustrious prince, was providing for the due instruction of succeeding generations of his countrymen. With this object in view, Alfred would, it is likely, especially foster a place of study, which, decayed as was then its condition, had been for ages the chief seminary of the land. Deprecating, therefore, as we do most heartily deprecate, that spirit of limitless scepticism, which is, at the present day, too frequently characteristic of investigations into the occurrences of time long passed, we do not hesitate to declare, that, although it has become fashionable to doubt, and even to deny, Alfred’s having had any share in restoring the Univer-

sity of Oxford, we have not ourselves been able to discover sufficient reason for withholding our assent to the statements of Camden and other distinguished writers, by whom this monarch is represented as having actually been, first its Restorer, and afterwards its liberal Patron. According to the writers in question, after reestablishing the Schools previously existing here, Alfred, in the year 886, founded three others, conferring on the whole number certain privileges. He also obtained for them certain immunities from Pope Martin the Second. Of the new Schools, or Halls, the first, called *Little University Hall*, was situated near the eastern extremity of High Street, and was endowed with competent salaries for twenty-six Grammarians; the second, called *Lesser University Hall*, was founded in School Street, for twenty-six Students in logic and philosophy: the third, named *Great University Hall*, was situated in High Street, a short distance westward of Little University Hall, and was endowed for twenty-six Divines. For the due support of these foundations, Alfred is understood to

have assigned the third part of a moiety of his whole yearly income, and the pensions themselves are said to have been regularly issued from the Exchequer, till the time of either Harold, or William the Conqueror. The first regents and readers in divinity in the University, thus happily restored, were, according to the old annals of the Monastery of Winchester, " St. Neot, an Abbot, and eminent professor of theology, and St. Grymbald, an eloquent and most excellent interpreter of the holy Scriptures: *Grammar* and *Rhetoric* were taught by Asserius, a monk, a man of extraordinary learning: *Logic*, *Music*, and *Arithmetic*, were read by John, a monk of St. David's: *Geometry* and *Astronomy* were professed by John, a monk and colleague of St. Grymbald, a man of sharp wit, and immense knowledge. The lectures were often honoured with the presence of the most illustrious and invincible monarch King Alfred, whose memory to every judicious taste shall be always sweeter than honey." Thus far the " old annals," as quoted by Camden,

who, professing to copy from "a fair MS. copy of" the above-named Asserius, thus proceeds: "ere long, a sharp dissension arose between Grymbald and those learned men whom he brought with him, and the old Scholars whom he found here at his coming." The latter, it seems, disapproved his forms of reading, and refused to conform to his institutions. For the space of three years, however, the difference was kept within decent bounds; but it then rose to such a height, as to require the interference of the King, who, being informed of it by a message from Grymbald, repaired in person to Oxford, and listened with patience to the complaints of both parties. Forbearing, however, to pass any decisive judgment on the merits of the case, Alfred earnestly exhorted the contending parties to lay aside their disputes, and live in amity one with another. But Grymbald, resenting these proceedings, retired to the monastery of Winchester, whither he also caused to be removed, from a vault under the church of St. Peter in the East, to the monastery of Winchester, a tomb prepared for

the reception of his remains. Fortunately, under the auspicious patronage of Alfred, these dissensions made no impression permanently-injurious to learning; which, on the contrary, flourished so exceedingly, that, ere his death, this father of his country had the happiness of being able to say, that "all his Bishops' sees were filled with prelates of sound learning, and that every pulpit in England was furnished with a good preacher." But alas! this flattering state of literature and religion in England was doomed to be speedily and sadly reversed. Soon after the death of Alfred, the Danes renewed their savage incursions, and a period commenced, which, "for its barbarism and wickedness, has been termed the age of iron; for its dulness and stupidity, the age of lead; and for its blindness and ignorance, the age of darkness." The history of Oxford during upwards of a century and a half from the accession of EDWARD THE ELDER, presents us with little else than a narration of battles, sieges, massacres, and burnings. Referring the annals of these disastrous times to a sub-

sequent part of the volume, we pass to the year immediately after the *Conquest*. The determined resistance opposed to the Conqueror's authority by the citizens of Oxford, operated most injuriously to the interests of the University. Exasperated by the contumacy of the former, William, although himself friendly to learning, and a liberal patron of scholars, not only treated the City with the utmost severity, but left the University to languish in neglect. However, from the ancient Statutes of the Collegiate Church or Chapel, which Robert D'Oiley, the Norman governor delegated by William, and Roger de Iveri, a friend of the governor, jointly founded in the Castle built by the former, it appears, that "there were even at that time some scholars in Oxford ; frequent mention being made in the said Statutes, of Fellows and Tutors, Commoners, and others, residing in the buildings attached to the church."

About this time, the Jews are said to have

* Peshall's edition of Wood's Oxford.

become very numerous in Oxford, and, being also wealthy, to have "purchased as many" houses in the contiguous parishes of St. Martin, St. Edward, and St. Aldate, as gave them the names of the *Old* and *New Jewry*." In one of these they built a school or synagogue, in which certain learned masters of that nation taught Hebrew, and explained the Rabbinical dogmas, to the advantage of the students in the University^d.

During the inglorious reign of WILLIAM RUFUS, the University may be presumed to have been gradually gaining ground, since we find, that, in the reign of his successor, HENRY I. surnamed Beauclerc, the learned languages were cultivated with great assiduity. A single master is reported to have had under his care, about this time, from 60 to 100 students. And one great motive of Henry's building here the palace of Beaumont, appears to have been a

^d Ayliffe. After being long obnoxious to the students and citizens, the Jews quitted Oxford in obedience to the decree, by which, in the reign of Edward I. they were all banished the kingdom.

wish for more frequent opportunities of conversing with men of learning, of whom he was a steady and liberal patron.

In 1139 King STEPHEN held a council at Oxford; and, in 1141, having previously obtained possession of the City, he invested the Castle, the walls of which at that time inclosed the Empress Maud, Stephen's celebrated female competitor for the crown. In three months the Castle was surrendered, but the Empress had made her escape the night before*; a circumstance at which the King was so much enraged, that, on his departure, he set fire to the City, and reduced it in a great measure to ashes. The Scholars were dispersed by this siege; but in about three years they returned; and, there being at that time

* The circumstances of her escape are curious. It was about Christmas, and the snow lay thick on the ground. The Empress put on a white dress, and, attended by three soldiers, stole out of the fortress in the dead of night, passed unobserved through the enemy's outposts, and, although the night was severely frosty, proceeded on foot to Wallingford, a distance of ten miles.

INTRODUCTION.

xiii

in Oxford many eminent teachers, particularly in the department of Law¹, the reputation of the University began rapidly to increase. In 1154, another Council was held here; in which it was agreed that Stephen should retain possession of the crown during his life, and that Henry, son of the Empress Mand, should succeed him in the regal dignity.

The latter, afterwards HENRY II.² held several Councils at Oxford, where, in his palace of Beaumont, he also resided much. During his reign, in the year 1190, a fire destroyed St. Frideswide's church, several Halls, and great part of the City. Till this period, the Halls and houses were of wood, and thatched; but now the citizens, profiting by the calamity, built chiefly with stone, using lead or tiles as a roofing. Many of the Halls

¹ During the twelfth century, the study of Law came into great repute, "to the discouragement," says Wood, "of other sciences."

² Till this reign, the degree of Doctor was unknown in England. The degrees of Bachelor and Master of Arts were of older standing.

were enlarged during this reign, a proof of the increasing number of scholars.

RICHARD I. was born in the palace of Beaumont ; and, although his military propensities rendered his reign not happy for his people, he appears to have ever retained a warm regard for the place of his nativity. Under his fostering auspices the University became so celebrated, as to be considered a rival to that of Paris.

So flourishing was the state of the University during the early part of the reign of King JOHN, that the number of students is said to have reached 3000^b. But this prosperity was soon clouded, the progress of science arrested, and the University itself threatened with annihilation, through the following unfortunate occurrence. A clerk, engaged in amusement, accidentally killed a woman, and, through fear of punishment, immediately fled. Search was

^b About the year 1203, the custom of preaching from a text began ; *postillizing*, that is, expounding in succession all the texts of a chapter, having previously been the mode of dispensing instruction from the pulpit.

however instantly made after him by the citizens, who, having learned to what Hall he belonged, proceeded thither, with the Mayor at their head, and seizing, not the offender, but three students wholly innocent of the fact, threw them into prison. A few days afterwards, the King (whose dislike of the clergy is well known) issued, from his palace at Woodstock, an order for putting the three (some say only two) persons, guiltless though they were, to death. The cruel mandate was instantly obeyed by the citizens ; upon which the scholars, deeply offended by so unworthy treatment, quitted Oxford, and retired, some to Cambridge, some to Reading, and some to Maidstone. Complaint was also made to the Pope, who laid the City under an interdict, and prohibited all teaching within it. Driven almost to despair, the citizens now sent a deputation to the papal legate, Nicholas, Bishop of Tusculum, humbly acknowledging their crime, and entreating forgiveness. The Legate, who was then at Westminster, granted their suit, but only on condition of their submitting to perform a humili-

liating penance in the several churches of Oxford. Satisfaction being thus in some sort made to the justly offended scholars, the latter, returning to Oxford, resumed their usual studies; and the University was soon after invested by the King with certain additional privileges.

Several Councils and Parliaments were held at Oxford by HENRY III. during whose reign, the state of the University was flourishing beyond all precedent, 15000 being, it is said, at one time, the number of students. And its reputation abroad must have been correspondent, since we read, that, in the year 1229; no fewer than 1000 scholars quitted the University of Paris, and repaired hither to prosecute their studies. Two or three years afterwards, the number of students is said to have reached 30000, consisting of English, Welsh, Scotch, Irish, and French.

In 1234, Otho, a Papal Legate, was sent hither to institute a reform of manners among the students. He was respectfully received,

but, through the insolence and brutality of his servants, was quickly involved in a quarrel with the scholars, and would probably have lost his own life in the tumult, had he not concealed himself in a belfry at Oseney, his temporary place of residence, and the scene of the affray. For this outrage on a messenger of the Holy See, 39 students were obliged to perform solemn penance.

In 1263, as Prince Edward, "returning
"from Paris, marched with an army towards
"Wales, and coming to Oxford in his way,
"was, by the burghers, forbid entrance, on
"account of the tumults now prevailing among
"the Barons," he quartered his soldiers in
the adjacent villages, "and lodged himself,
"that night, at the royal palace in Magdalen
"parish, the next morning proceeding on his
"journey; but the scholars, who were shut
"into the town, being desirous to meet and
"salute that Prince whom they loved so
"much, first assembled about *Smith Gate*,
"and demanded to be let into the fields.
"Being denied this by one of the Bailiffs,

“ they returned to their hostels for arms, and
“ broke open the gate ; whereupon the Mayor
“ arrested many of them ; and on the Chan-
“ cellor’s request was so far from releasing
“ those whom he had committed to prison,
“ that he ordered the citizens to bring out
“ their banners, and display them in the midst
“ of the street ; and embattling them, com-
“ manded a sudden onset on the rest of the
“ scholars remaining in the town ; and much
“ bloodshed had been committed, had not a
“ scholar, by the sound of the Schools’ bell
“ in St. Mary’s church, given notice of the
“ danger which threatened the students, then
“ at dinner. On this alarm they straightways
“ armed, and went out to meet their assail-
“ ants, and, in joined battle, courageously
“ subdued and put the townsmen to flight,
“ wounding many of themⁱ. The King hap-
“ pened to be on the eve of holding a Parlia-
“ ment at Oxford ; but, on this disturbance
“ being notified to him, he sent two commis-
“ sioners to enquire into the circumstances.

ⁱ Aycliffe.

" Their report seems to have been favourable
 " to the students, since the King publicly pro-
 " claimed their pardon. He, however, required
 " them to depart from the City till the Par-
 " liament should have ended its Session.
 " By this requisition, the students were, it
 " seems, offended ; for, on the King's laying
 " siege to Northampton, whither most of the
 " students had retired^k, and in which the in-
 " surgent Barons had fortified themselves,
 " the latter ranged themselves on the side of
 " the besieged, and fought against their Sove-
 " reign with the most determined bravery.
 " This defection of loyalty would probably
 " have been visited with exemplary punish-
 " ment, had not motives of policy inclined the
 " King to the side of lenity."

^k Some however retired to Sarum, where, according
 to Tanner, Bishop Egidius had founded, in 1260, (this
 date must surely be wrong,) for students who quitted
 Oxford on occasion of the quarrel with the Legate
 Otho, the *College of Vaux*.

The scholars who had fixed themselves at North-
 ampton were soon commanded to return, and the
 University at that place fell to decay.

It was in this reign that Colleges began to be founded. And, as there were not wanting in the University individuals of great eminence in the literature of the age, (which was not however either very deep, or very extensive in its range,) some advances were doubtless made in sound learning: but so frequent were the dissensions that arose, (dissensions, such was the military spirit of the time, usually terminated by an appeal to arms,) that the studies pursued were perpetually, and often very seriously, interrupted. To the old animosity subsisting between *Gownsmen* and *Townsmen*, were now added violent feuds among the scholars themselves; originating for the most part in the accidental circumstance of having been born on the *northern* or *southern* side of the river Trent¹.

¹ The Welsh, Scotch, and North English students, went by the general appellation of *Northern men*; and scholars from the district south of the Trent, by that of *Southern men*. In 1258, says Ayliffe, "the Northern men, erecting their banners, fought it out against the Southern men in the fields about Oxford; in which engagement many were killed and wounded

EDWARD THE FIRST was a prince of so martial a character, that one would scarcely expect to hear of his giving much encouragement to letters. Nor did he; yet in his reign we find the University, through the medium of the Bishop of Lincoln, soliciting from the Pope a rather extraordinary privilege, namely, that all superior graduates of Oxford might become Lecturers and Regents in any University whatever, without any farther examination. Whether this petition was granted does not appear; but Ayliffe is of opinion, that it was.

During the reign of EDWARD II. who, though a sincere friend to the University, sometimes, by acceding too readily to the prayer of ap-

"on either side. This war in the University was a
 "prelude of the ensuing tumults in the kingdom, if
 "we may credit the following verses,

"Chronica et penses, cum pugnant Oxonienses,

"Post paucos menses, volat ira per Angligeneses."

In "a grievous contention," which, in 1506, took place in High Street, before St. Mary's church, the Principal of Hart Hall and two scholars were killed.

plications made to him by contending parties, acted injuriously to its interests, little of the tranquillity which should ever pervade the seats of learning was experienced at Oxford. Dissensions were frequent and acrimonious. Among other sources of disagreement, the University now began to be involved in contests with the preaching friars, who, displaying a constant disposition to break the statutes and infringe the privileges of the University, were exceedingly troublesome.

EDWARD III. had received his education at Oxford, and continued to cherish through life a filial veneration and affection for the University. Even while engaged in forming projects of the loftiest ambition, he watched with unceasing care over the interests of this learned establishment. His liberality was enlarged, judicious, and uniform. In augmenting the privileges of the University, he had respect to the security and consequence of the students, as well as to the authority of the superior officers. But still the peace of the University was frequently disturbed. To

former causes of dissension, others were now added. Disputes, on various points of religious doctrine, arose, and were carried on, with an asperity most discreditable to students of the liberal sciences. In the year 1331, owing, say Camden and Twyne, to the fate of the northern scholars who were subdued by those of the south, a considerable number of Oxford scholars retired to Stamford, where a general study appears to have existed for many years before. The seceding scholars were, however, but not without great difficulty, compelled to return to Oxford; and a statute was afterwards passed, rendering it imperative upon every candidate for a degree to "swear "never to read, or hear a reader, at Stamford, "as a University."

In the year 1344 the election of a Chancellor was an occasion of frequent skirmishes between the northern and southern men; and in the year 1349 new and more violent dissensions arose upon a similar account. The most dreadful of the many dire conflicts between the students and citizens took place

during the reign of Edward III. It began on St. Scholastica's day, 1354, and continued three days. On the second evening, the townsmen called in to their assistance the country people; and, thus reinforced, completely overpowered the scholars, of whom numbers were killed and wounded. The consequences of this outrage on the part of the citizens were to them very serious. They were debarred the rites and consolations of the church; their privileges were greatly narrowed; they were heavily fined; and an annual performance for ever of certain penitential observances was enjoined. With respect to the last, some change took place after the Reformation, and a farther change has since been made^m. But the latter year was also marked by the occurrence of a more serious calamity. Pestilence visited the City, and so dreadful was the consequent mortality, that one fourth of the students died; while, of the

^m. To this day, on each anniversary of St. Scholastica, the Mayor and sixty-two citizens attend at St. Mary's church; where, the Litany being read at the altar, an obligation of a penny is made by each man.

citizens, the living were scarcely sufficient to bury the deadⁿ. "In one day sixteen bodies "were buried in the same churchyard." So great was the terror excited by this fearful visitation, that many of the Halls were wholly deserted by students, and, for some time, occupied by townsmen.

RICHARD II. greatly patronized the University. By a very particular and remarkable charter, he confirmed all the privileges bestowed upon it by his predecessors. He also remitted a subsidy imposed by Edward III. upon unbeneficed clerks, and even presented the University with a sum of money in return for the subsidy. Several new foundations also took place during the reign of Richard; yet, strange as it may seem, learning did not flourish. The students

ⁿ The chief causes of this, as well as of similar visitations, were, no doubt, the excessively crowded state of population in the narrow streets and lanes of the City, and the filth, which, notwithstanding reiterated prohibitory edicts, was suffered to accumulate in the minor streets to a loathsome degree.

were in diminished numbers, and several of the Halls were let for uses foreign to the cultivation of literature. Among the circumstances most unfavourable to the advancement of learning at this juncture, must undoubtedly be reckoned the still frequent quarrels and disturbances by which the University was agitated. In the years 1388 and 1389, in particular, ferocious conflicts took place between the north and south countrymen.

During the same reign, the celebrated John Wickliffe, then Warden of Canterbury College, first began to propound the reforming doctrines; which, although speedily branded with the name of heresy, and warmly opposed by most of the superior Clergy, appear to have been favourably received by a majority of the University. So evidently indeed was this the case, that the reigning pontiff, Gregory XI. issuing a bull against the Wicklavian tenets, actually directed a severe reproof against the Chancellor, for his negligence in permitting the heresy to diffuse itself.

The reign of HENRY IV. was marked by a virulent persecution of those members of the University, and they were very numerous, who professed the doctrines of Wickliffe. The chief agent in this persecution was Arundel, Archbishop of Canterbury, whose interference was, however, resented with great spirit. Letters, couched in the language of severe remonstrance, and even of reproach, were addressed to his Grace by several friends of the Reformation; and, at length, all academical business was suspended, and the scholars retired into the country. A resolution was even formed to dissolve the University; and in so serious a light was the determination viewed, that the King himself condescended to write to the discontented academicians several kind letters, requesting them to lay aside their design, and return to Oxford*.

* In the year 1400, the Earls of Kent and Salisbury, Sir Thomas Blount, Sir Ralph Lumley, Sir Ben. Sely, John Walsh, and Baldwin de Kent, Esqrs., were executed at Green-Ditch, without the North Gate of Oxford, for having engaged in a conspiracy against King HENRY IV.

In the reign of King HENRY V. who, having himself received part of his education at Oxford, had naturally a predilection in favour of the University, the number of students increased; but in that of his mild and pious successor, HENRY VI. although this Prince was a distinguished patron of letters, and also evinced very favourable dispositions towards Oxford, the scholars were few in number, learning fell into disesteem, and the revenues of the University sunk to a very low ebb. During this reign too a contagious distemper broke out in the University; but, fortunately, it does not appear to have been very destructive.

EDWARD IV. was an encourager of literature, and a zealous friend to the University; the title of Protector of which he assumed.

RICHARD III. paid a visit to Oxford soon after his assumption of the regal dignity; and he afterwards passed an act, empowering the University to export or import books at pleasure.

In 1493, the eighth year of HENRY VII. Oxford was visited by a plague, which, although most of the collegiate societies retired to their houses in the country, swept away a considerable number of both clerks and laymen.

Only ten years elapsed before the ravages of pestilence were renewed; when, as was usual, the greater number of students withdrew into the country. Still the distemper continued to rage with little intermission during the space of three months. And, such was its fury, that, partly through the number of deaths, and partly through the panic excited, of fifty-five Halls, which, in the month of August, were full, only thirty-three were inhabited, and that very thinly, in December following. Throughout this reign the state of learning at Oxford was far from flourishing. The Greek language especially was but little known. Indeed, a numerous party of students openly professed to hold it in utter contempt; taking the name of *Trojans*, in contradistinction to that of *Grecians*, which they contemptuously bestowed on those who

cultivated the study of Greek. Between these two parties arose frequent and acrimonious contests, by which the peace of the University was much disturbed. Still, however, the names of Grocyn, Linacre, Latimer, Tunstall, Lilly, and Colet, of the first of whom the learned Erasmus himself is said to have been a pupil, sufficiently prove, that men of sound learning were to be found in the University. The period was that to which belongs the glorious distinction of having fostered the revival of letters; and in the honours of that period the University of Oxford is certainly entitled to claim a participation.

The reign of HENRY VIII. was, upon the whole, propitious to the University. Henry was himself ambitious of being esteemed a learned Prince; and his example rendered learning, or at least an appearance of learning, fashionable among the nobility. On two very momentous points also the sanction of the University was of extreme importance to Henry. The first of these was his pro-

jected divorce from Catherine of Arragon; and the other, his assumption of the supremacy of the church. On both these questions the sense of the Academic body was expressed in favour of the royal intentions, a circumstance doubtless very gratifying to Henry, who, during the whole of his long reign, proved a liberal and steady friend to the University*. But the King's designs with regard to the plunder of that church, of which he had recently declared himself Head, soon became fully apparent, and an end was of course put to all voluntary acquiescence, on the part of the University, in such of the royal measures as had reference to any farther changes in the ecclesiastical establishment. The apprehended blow was nevertheless

* When, after the suppression of monasteries, a plan for the dissolution of Colleges was laid before the King, Henry is said to have expressed great indignation, and to have replied, that, in his judgment, "no land in England was better bestowed than that which had been given to the Universities, since, by their maintenance, the Realm should be well governed when he was laid in the grave."

quickly struck^a; and, although the fears that had been entertained of Henry's seizing upon College estates, were proved to have been groundless; yet, so lamentably were the interests of Oxford, as a learned seminary, affected by the injuries inflicted upon the church, that, according to Sir John Peshall, there were, in the year 1546, only ten inceptors in Arts, and three in Divinity and Law: the University held not a Convocation from February to September, nor afforded Clergy enough for the care of the churches. As a contrast to the melancholy statement here given, it is pleasing to observe, that, in this reign, three noble Colleges were added to the educational establishments of Oxford; and when it is considered, that in the same reign classical learning was first made an essential

^a The number of *Monasteries* suppressed was 645; of *Collegiate Establishments* 90; of *Chantries* and *Free Chapels* 2374; of *Hospitals* 110. The annual revenues of all these, estimated at 160,000*l.* were seized for the King's use; as were also the riches, in some cases immense, found in the immediate possession of the different Societies!

branch of the academical course, and a proper direction was first given to academical studies in general; our previous assertion that it was a reign, propitious, on the whole, to the University, may perhaps appear to have been not ill founded.

The third year of EDWARD VI. was distinguished, with respect to Oxford, by a measure, which, as it was carried into effect, bore a character of equal harshness, injustice, and impolicy. This was a visitation, for the purpose of reforming the University in point of religion, executed by delegates appointed by royal commission. In this visitation the form of University government was arbitrarily changed, and many deserving men were ejected from their places. At the same time most of the College Libraries, together with the Public Library, suffered irreparable injury in the loss of a prodigious number of MSS. many of them of inestimable value, and in a great proportion of which, according to A. Wood, no superstitious doctrines whatever could have been found, but which were taken

by the visitors and committed to the flames ; while other MSS. the exquisite illuminations and other ornaments of which were accounted superstitious, underwent the most barbarous mutilation and defacement. The severity of this treatment caused numbers of Students, of whom there appear to have been in all but 1015, indignantly to quit the University ; and, at the following season of Lent, the Schools, we are told, possessed only sixteen determining Bachelors.

During the reign of MARY, the University was also in a melancholy state. " The ingenious " arts," says Wood, " were held in contempt. " For sermons, scarcely one in a month. Public Lecturers seldom performed their offices. " The Greek tongue fell into its old decay ; " and, in general, there was such a contempt " and disuse of learning, that there was no " appearance of, nor was there any way left to, " the miserable arts. For six years there " were only three inceptors in divinity, eleven " in civil law, in physic six.—Masters of Arts " one year but eighteen, another nineteen,

“another twenty-five, and another twenty-seven.” In the years 1555 and 1556, three venerable Fathers of the Reformed Church, first the Bishops of London and Worcester, *Ridley* and *Latimer*, and a few months afterwards Archbishop *Cranmer*, suffered martyrdom at Oxford; thus deepening into horror the shades of the academic picture in Queen Mary’s days. In cases, however, which took no colour from her peculiar creed, Mary shewed herself a friend to the University. She bestowed on it numerous advowsons, and confirmed its privileges, ancient as well as modern.

The commencement of ELIZABETH’s reign was hailed with transport by the friends of the Reformation, numbers of whom had been ejected from their places during the reign of her predecessor. Elizabeth, however, evinced singular and very praiseworthy moderation in carrying into effect the necessary changes. Although several of the Heads of Houses addressed letters to her Majesty, representing the injurious treatment that her Protestant subjects in the University continued to receive

from the Papists ; she suffered twelve months to elapse from the time of her inauguration, before she commissioned delegates to enquire into the state of the different Colleges : and these she emphatically directed to use all tenderness on the occasion. Such individuals, indeed, as would not conform to the Protestant doctrines and form of worship, were either ejected from their places, or induced to resign ; but in neither case was any harshness used. Lenient, however, as the Queen was in this respect, and decided as was her countenance of the University, so great was the shock given to the latter by the frequent changes of religion, that in the year 1560 not one person performed theological exercises in the Schools, only one in civil law, and only three in physic. In the same year, not a single person stood for a degree, in either divinity, law, or medicine. In 1563 there were only two regular preachers in the University ; and one of these shortly after leaving Oxford, the University pulpit was occasionally ascended by a layman. “ Richard Taverner, of Wood Eaton, near Oxford, Esq.” says the compiler

of the Athenæ, “ did several times preach in
“ Oxford; and when he was High Sheriff of the
“ county, (which was a few years after this,)
“ came into St. Mary’s church, out of pure
“ charity, with a golden chain about his neck,
“ and a sword, as ’tis said, by his side, and
“ gave the academians, destitute of evangelical
“ advice, a sermon, beginning with these
“ words : Arriving at the mount of St. Mary’s,
“ in the stony stage ’ where I now stand, I have
“ brought you some fyne bisketts, baked in the
“ oven of charitie, carefully conserved for the
“ chickens of the church, the sparrows of the
“ spirit, and the sweet swallowes of salvation,
“ &c.’ ” Lamentable indeed must have been
the state of the University, when so miserable
a driveller was “ several times ” permitted to
insult its members from their own pulpit.

In 1563 Oxford was visited by that frequent scourge the plague.

’ St. Mary’s pulpit was then of fine carved ashler stone.

’ Athen. Oxon.

In 1556 the University had the honour of a visit from her Majesty.

The year 1577 was marked by the occurrence of one of the most calamitous events recorded in the annals of the City. This was the *Black Assize*, when Bell and Barham the two Judges, the High Sheriff, two Knights, eight Esquires and Justices of the peace, and almost all the gentlemen of the grand jury, died soon after they had retired into the country..

In 1580 an earthquake spread great terror among the inhabitants of this part of England, but fortunately did no serious mischief.

The year 1592 brought the University the honour of another visit from the Queen; who, as on the former occasion, was charmed with the situation and magnificence of the place, and highly gratified with her reception and entertainment.

In this reign it was that the puritanical

spirit, which afterwards, uniting with the spirit of party, produced effects so truly melancholy, first displayed itself. Oxford was soon rather deeply tinctured with it ; a circumstance that did not however prevent the University, after it had recovered the shock sustained through the repeated changes of the established religion, from flourishing exceedingly, and producing many eminent scholars. Through the whole of Elizabeth's long and splendid reign the University enjoyed the full sunshine of royal favour. One of her Majesty's first acts was to free both Oxford and Cambridge for ever from the payment of tenths and first fruits, and from subsidies on the temporalities, or lay fees. In her 13th year both the Universities were incorporated by Act of Parliament ; and many other proofs of her regard for the interests of learning did she give to both, but particularly to this of Oxford.

In the year of JAMES THE FIRST's accession, the plague raged with so much violence in London, that the King, with his Court, removed to Oxford, in order to be out of the

sphere of its malignant influence. But hither, in a short time, the malady most unfortunately followed ; and so vehemently did it rage, that most of the students fled into the country ; while, in the city, business was entirely suspended. “ Not a living creature,” says Ayliffe, “ besides nurses and corpse bearers, was seen in the streets, which were “ covered with grass, even in the market-“ place.” In this reign the disputes between Papists (a term extended by the opposite party even to conscientious members of the Church of England) and Puritans, were carried on with increased virulence ; and evidently began to threaten danger to the state. The opinions and arguments of the contending parties were disseminated in every part of the kingdom. An ardour for controversy inflamed the general mind ; and, as the religious tenets of the puritanical party, besides being, at least such of them as were principally insisted upon, of a kind that experience has since shewn to be peculiarly acceptable to a corrupt and ignorant vulgar, were propagated with the greater zeal ; numbers of the

common people speedily embraced them, and, becoming decidedly hostile to the existing religious establishment, were but too well prepared to fall in with the designs of those, who, in the next reign, strove, with fatal success, to excite in their minds a similar spirit of hostility to the royal person and government.

By King James the Universities were first empowered to send two members to Parliament.

Early in the reign of CHARLES I. the plague again raging in the metropolis, a parliament, the proceedings in which were gloomily ominous of the evils about to be poured upon the country, was held at Oxford.

In the year 1642, when the storm which had been so long gathering burst forth into civil war, Oxford was selected by King Charles as the place of his head quarters. Here the unhappy monarch met only with consolation and assistance. Oxonian loyalty,

strengthened and confirmed by principle, had not been undermined, or even shaken, by the religious disputes so long agitated in the University. Venerating, because they understood, the excellent civil constitution of their country, a constitution, with the genius of which, despotism, whether of one or of many, is happily incompatible, no sooner did the Academians, in number, at that time, about 4000, perceive the real designs of the fanatics, than they hastened to place their lives and properties at the disposal of a prince, whose piety and whose virtues commanded their respect, and the goodness of whose intentions, with respect to government, they believed to be unquestionable. The memorable sacrifice of all the plate belonging to the different Colleges, and a loan of upwards of 10000*l.* subsequently made, were solid and honourable proofs of that attachment to the cause of order, and that deference for legitimate authority, by which persons of a liberal education rarely fail to be distinguished. And the loyalty, thus seasonably evinced, was as undeviating as it was ardent. But alas! though at the

commencement of the unhappy contest, the partial success of his Majesty's arms afforded some ground of hope for the speedy restoration of order, the royal cause soon became desperate, and in 1646, by the King's direction, Oxford was surrendered to the besieging army of Sir Thomas Fairfax, who had also ineffectually besieged the City the year before. The conditions of surrender were extremely favourable to the Oxonians; not a single privilege of either the University or City was compromised. But, deprived by the troubles of most of her sons, and sorely impoverished in her finances, the former was now lamentably circumstanced. The Colleges and Halls were in disrepair; the few remaining scholars were not only mostly indigent, but the younger part of them, through bearing arms, and keeping company with the military, idle and dissipated; the Schools had been employed as granaries; lectures and exercises had almost ceased. To complete the misfortunes of the University, a Visitation was ordered by the Parliament, and speedily took place; the Commissioners setting themselves

vigorously to work to "*reform the discipline, and correct the erroneous doctrines of the University, by the rule of the Covenant.*" On this occasion a few base or timid spirits ranged themselves on the fanatical side, and went hand in hand with these *reforming* Commissioners; but the great body of the University assembled in Convocation, and passed a public Act and Declaration against the proffered opinions; an Act which, to use the words of Lord Clarendon, "must remain to the world's end as a monument of the learning, courage, and loyalty of this excellent place." And this was all that could be done. The power was now in the hands of Sectarian revolutionists, and just such a use was made of it as might have been anticipated. The lands belonging to the church were ordered to be sold; divines who refused to conform to the new order of things were ejected from their places; painted windows and other works of art were consigned to destruction as superstitious and devilish. During the *Interregnum* nominal students were pretty numerous in the University, but

they had not to labour as formerly. The examination of candidates for Holy Orders was frequently confided to ignorant and enthusiastic laymen, styled Tryers, whose enquiries went not to ascertain the candidate's proficiency in classical literature, and the other usual branches of an academical course, but had respect almost exclusively to his advances in what these termed grace. The University could nevertheless still boast of containing a few individuals of genuine talent and solid erudition; and at this very time it was that, in meetings held periodically at one of the Colleges' by some of the individuals alluded to, the Royal Society originated.

In 1650 Cromwell was elected Chancellor of the University. In 1657, in consequence of a petition presented by the gentlemen, freeholders, and inhabitants of the county of Durham, Oliver founded, at Durham, in the houses of the Dean and Chapter, endow-

* Vide the walk through Wadham College.

ing it also with their revenues, a *College* for a Provost, two Senior Fellows, and twelve Junior Fellows, twenty-four Scholars, and twelve Exhibitioners, besides eighteen Scholars in a Free-School attached to the College. In 1659 the University of Oxford petitioned Cromwell to withhold from the Durham institution the power of conferring degrees; on which Oliver gave assurances, that nothing should be done to the prejudice of either Oxford or Cambridge. At the Restoration the revenues of the new College reverted to the Dean and Chapter, and the College itself, which is said to have flourished exceedingly under the auspices of its *Protector*, was dissolved.

At the Restoration the University was placed on its former footing, and, to adopt the words of Lord Clarendon, “after several
“ tyrannical governments, which mutually suc-
“ ceeded each other, and with the same ma-
“ lice and perverseness endeavoured to ex-
“ tinguish all good literature and allegiance,

“ Oxford yielded a harvest of extraordinary
“ good and sound knowledge in all parts of
“ learning.”

In the year 1681, when party spirit had unfortunately once more risen to great height, CHARLES II. assembled a Parliament at Oxford. The Session was, however, but of short duration. At the end of seven days, the King suddenly dissolved the Parliament, and departed for Windsor. Many of the members, summoned on this occasion, pretending a fear of the Papists, had come attended by bodies of their servants and retainers: the London representatives, in particular, were escorted by a numerous body of well-armed horsemen; having in their hats ribbands, inscribed with the words, “ No Popery ! No Slavery !”

Scarcely was JAMES II. seated on the throne, when his evident bias towards Roman Catholicism, and the arbitrary manner in which he proceeded to carry his designs into execution, put the whole nation in a ferment. The

•

standard of rebellion was quickly raised against his authority; and although the insurrection was speedily quelled, disaffection continued to spread, and a spirit of determined hostility to his person and government soon became general among the people. The extreme and indiscriminating severity with which the misguided followers of Monmouth were punished, greatly aggravated this spirit; and, after a gloomy and unquiet reign of about four years, the last British King of the unfortunate line of Stuart was obliged to yield up his throne, without a struggle, to a Prince, called by a majority of the nation to supersede him. One of the most remarkable instances of the injudicious zeal and arbitrary disposition of James, was his illegal interference with this University, which happened soon after his accession to the throne. The circumstances were briefly these:—The President of Magdalen College (one of the most opulent foundations of the kind in Europe) was just dead, and the Society, who possess the right of electing their own Head, were about to choose

•

a successor, when the royal commands were laid upon them to elect, as President, "one Farmer, who was, it appears, known to be a man of bad principle." The Society therefore, in the most respectful manner, entreated that his Majesty would either allow them to proceed in their own election, or, at least, nominate a more suitable person. To this entreaty no answer was returned; and, when the day of election arrived, the Fellows made choice of Dr. Hough, a man every way qualified for an office of so much honour and dignity. Enraged at this instance of disobedience, James immediately sent down a mandate for setting aside Dr. Hough, and electing not, indeed, the person originally named, but Dr. Parker, whom his Majesty had recently elevated to the See of Oxford, but whose appointment to the Headship would have been far from pleasing to the Society. A respectful statement was therefore now transmitted to the King, of the Society's determination to sustain the election, which, in strict conformity with the provisions of their Statutes, they had just made; accompanied

by a declaration, in support of which, they appealed to their previous conduct, of the most perfect loyalty and obedience under all lawful circumstances. This continued and resolute opposition to his will incensed James so highly, that he came in person to Oxford, and, after an ineffectual attempt to terrify the Fellows, by reproaches and threats, into submission, put an end to the business, by forcibly expelling the President, and, two individuals excepted, the whole members of the Society. Within little more than a year from the date of this violent proceeding, James saw himself deprived of the crown; but he had previously, by directing the restoration of the deprived President and Fellows of Magdalen, evinced his sense of the injustice done to them.

From the accession of WILLIAM III. and MARY II. the annals of Oxford are of a pacific and truly pleasing character. Two new Colleges have been founded;—several of those previously existing have been either wholly or partially rebuilt, or have received considerable

additions ;—a magnificent Library, a Printing Office, an Observatory, and an Infirmary, have been added to the public structures ;—several additional Professorships and Lectureships have been founded. But for an account of the several foundations within the University, and for sundry particulars relative to its history during the period intervening between the Revolution of 1688 and the present time, we must refer to our succeeding pages. We cannot, however, close this outline of the academical history of Oxford, without observing, that, during the period referred to, the reputation of Oxford, as a learned seminary, has been most brilliantly sustained by her learned and accomplished sons, who, in numbers too great to admit of even a bare record of names, have been seen rising in succession to stations of eminence and high usefulness in the various departments of public life, or attaining to honourable distinction in the more retired walks of literature.

The UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD is an incorporated body, and possesses numerous import-

ant privileges, conferred by a succession of Sovereigns, and contained in a series of royal charters, which commence at a very early period, and have all received the sanction of the legislature. The Incorporation is styled *The Chancellor, Masters, and Scholars of the University of Oxford*, and is governed by statutes enacted in Convocation. Those under which the affairs of the University are now administered, bearing the title of "Corpus Statutorum Universitatis Oxoniensis," were drawn up during the Chancellorship of Archbishop Laud, and were approved by Charles I. They have since received such alterations and additions as the exigencies of more modern times have seemed to call for.

Two Assemblies, termed the *Houses of Congregation* and of *Convocation*, possess the whole administrative power of the University in its corporate capacity. The House of Congregation is composed wholly of Regents; of whom there are two orders, *necessary regents**, and *regents ad placi-*

* By the term *necessary regents*, are designated all

um. The House of Convocation consists of both regents and non-regents. The Chancellor, or the Vice-Chancellor, or, in the Vice-Chancellor's absence, one of his four deputies; with the two Proctors, or, in their absence, their respective deputies; preside in both Houses; in which, on all occasions, their presence is indispensably requisite. Besides the Vice-Chancellor and Proctors, at least nine regents are necessary to form a Congregation; but for a Convocation no particular number of members is required. The principal business of the former House is the passing of Graces and Dispensations, and the granting of Degrees: that of the latter ex-

Doctors and Masters of Arts during the year intervening between the Act immediately subsequent to their graduation, and the succeeding Act: *regents ad placitum* are all resident Doctors; all Heads of Houses, or, in their absence, their respective deputies; all Professors and Public Lecturers; the Masters of the Schools and Public Examiners; the Deans and Censors of Colleges; and all other Masters of Arts during the second year of their regency.

tends to all subjects connected with the credit, interest, and welfare of the University.

Besides these two Houses, there is what is termed, from its being held weekly, the *Hebdomadal Meeting*. This consists of the Vice-Chancellor, Heads of Houses, and Proctors. In it, every new statute, order, or regulation, must originate, and every particular measure be discussed, previously to its being proposed in Congregation, and decreed in Convocation^t.

The OFFICERS, in whom the government of the University is vested, are, the Chancellor, the High Steward, the Vice-Chancellor, and the two Proctors.

The *Chancellor* is elected by Convocation, usually from among the more distinguished nobility, and now holds his office for life, though formerly only for one, or, at the most,

^t No language but Latin is spoken in either of these Houses.

for three years. His duties are to maintain, under the Sovereign, the rights and privileges of the University; to investigate complaints; to hear and determine controversies; to examine into the progress made in learning and science; and, in short, to watch as a father over all the interests of the University. These being the Chancellor's duties, his powers are of course ample; he has a court in which he presides, either personally or by deputy, and the statutes of every College are framed with a particular reference to his authority.

The *High Steward* is nominated by the Chancellor, and must be approved by Convocation. His office is to assist the Chancellor, and other University magistrates, in the fulfilment of their duties; and, under the Chancellor, to defend the privileges of the University. He sits, if required, to hear and determine causes; and, either personally, or by deputy, holds the court-leets of the University. He is usually a person of good family and of eminent talent, and retains his office during life.

The *Vice-Chancellor* is nominated by the Chancellor from among the Heads of Colleges, and his appointment is ratified by Convocation, in whose presence he is also sworn into office. He is the chief resident magistrate of the University. His duties are to see that every University regulation is duly observed; to call Convocations, Congregations, and Courts; to license taverns; to expel delinquents; &c. The office is itself annual, but it has, of late, usually been held during four successive years. The Vice-Chancellor appoints as his deputies, in case of absence or ill health, four Pro-Vice-Chancellors, chosen from among the Heads of Houses.

The two *Proctors* are chosen from the several Colleges in rotation, according to a cycle made out for the purpose, and contained in certain statutes transmitted by Charles I. Each Proctor is elected by the common suffrage of all the Doctors and Masters of Arts, in the College of which he is a member. The duties of the Procuratorial office are, to assist the Vice-Chancellor in the more immediate

superintendence of the University, especially with regard to the performing of scholastic exercises, and taking of Degrees ; to see that the statutes are observed, just weights and measures kept, and right habits worn. The Proctors are also the immediate guardians of the public peace. Their office is annual. They must be Masters of Arts of at least four, but not more than ten years standing, from their regency. Each Proctor nominates two Masters of Arts, who, under the name of Pro-Proctors, assist him in the discharge of his duties.

Other Officers of the University are, a Public Orator, a Keeper of the Archives, a Registrar, and two Clerks of the Market.

The office of *Public Orator* was permanently established on Queen Elizabeth's visit in 1564. The chief duties of the person who holds it are, to write letters, and to compose public addresses ; to deliver, as the voice of the University, a harangue at the reception of illustrious visitors ; and to present persons on

whom the honorary degree of Master of Arts is to be conferred. The office of *Keeper of Archives*, established in 1634, consists in preserving and arranging the University records, charters, &c. and being ready, on all occasions, to produce them in support of the rights and privileges of the University. The *Registrar* attends all the meetings, records the acts, copies the letters and official papers, collects and receives the rents of the University. He must be a notary public. The two *Clerks of the Market* have to attend to the weights and measures used in the market, and to examine into the quality and price of provisions ; also to punish regraters, forestallers *, &c.

* The following inferior officers belong to the University : three *Esquire Bedels*, three *Yeomen Bedels*, a *Virger*, a *Bailiff*, a *Clerk*, a *Bellman*, and a *Marshall*. The *Esquire Bedels*, carrying maces of silver, wrought and gilt ; the *Yeomen Bedels*, with plain silver maces ; and the *Virger*, with a silver rod ; walk, on solemn occasions, before the Vice-Chancellor, whose commands it is their peculiar office to execute, and who never appears abroad without at least one of the *Yeoman Bedels* to attend him.

The University sends two *Members to Parliament*. The right of nomination is vested in those who have attained the degree of Doctor, or of Master of Arts. The returning Officers are the Vice-Chancellor and Heads of Colleges^t.

The reign of Henry III. has already been noticed as that in which Colleges began to be founded at Oxford; where anciently, as is yet the case at the Scottish and most foreign Universities, the students lived in the houses of citizens. Afterwards, at Oxford, the scholars lived in society, in houses hired for the purpose; yet, as in the former case also,

^t Such is the noble example of independence in elections set by this learned body, that to declare an intention to canvass, or to treat, would be considered in any candidate a forfeiture to favour. In 1750, Sir Roger Newdigate was first informed of his being chosen by a letter from the Vice-Chancellor.

Sir William Scott, Knt. D.C.L. F.R.S. Judge of the Admiralty Court, &c. &c. is one of the Representatives. The other is the Rt. Hon. Robert Peel, M.A. Principal Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. Sir William studied at University, Mr. Peel at Christ Church.

wholly at their own expence. But now, certain bountiful patrons of learning wisely and benevolently resolved to devise in perpetuity ample revenues for the purpose of providing lodging and entire maintenance for students, and of also providing salaries for Professors to instruct, and Officers to rule, the said students, according to statutes drawn up by the Founders for the due government of their respective establishments, coeval with the institution of Colleges, was, it is conceived, the introduction into the University of a systematic plan of education. We read indeed of a previous division of the Schools into those of grammar, sophistry, arts, divinity, law, medicine, &c. ; and, as Mr. Chalmers observes, “ were we to trust to names only, these seem “ adequate to a perfect system of education ; “ but the literary remains of the early ages “ afford no great presumption in their favour.” The same writer adds : “ in point “ of fact it is difficult to trace any regular “ plan of education, tending to that general “ diffusion of learning which now prevails, before the foundation of the first College by

“ Walter de Merton ; whose statutes afford
“ an extraordinary instance of a matured sys-
“ tem, and, with very little alteration, have
“ been found to accommodate themselves to
“ the progress of science, discipline, and civil
“ economy, in more refined ages ”.

To go at all into detail relative to the plan on which, in this distinguished University, education is now conducted, would be foreign to the design of the present volume ; suffice it to say, that, at Oxford, any benefits that may be supposed derivable from the *lecture-system* of instruction, may be obtained by the student, who is, at the same time, reaping the more solid advantages, which, at least as far as respects classical literature and the mathematics, are secured by the use of *text books*, and the instructions of *College-Tutors*. Every College is as it were a University within itself, in which, while order is preserved and discipline maintained by proper officers^x, students

* *Chambers's Colleges*, Introd. p. 13.

^x A list of the University Officers, Professors, &c. will be found in the Appendix.

are instructed in all the liberal sciences by Tutors, who must be persons of approved learning and probity, and of sound religious principles. The University at large is also provided with *Public Professors of Divinity, Hebrew, Greek, Civil Law, Medicine, Modern History, Botany, Natural Philosophy, Astronomy, Geometry, Ancient History, Anatomy, Music, Arabic, Poetry, Anglo Saxon, Common Law, and Chemistry.* There are also five Public Lecturers, namely, a *Clinical Lecturer*, and *Readers in Anatomy, Arabic, Experimental Philosophy, and Mineralogy.* To these may be added the Radclivian *Astronomical Observer*: and it may be farther observed, that Lectures (some of them free to all students) in various departments of science have been founded, and endowed, in several of the Colleges. We may likewise here mention, that two travelling Fellowships of Medicine, founded by Dr. Radcliffe, with several Law Fellowships and Scholarships, founded by a Mr. Viner, are at the disposal of the University.

Four *Terms* are kept in the year, namely *Michaelmas Term*, which begins on the 10th of October, and ends on the 17th of December; *Hilary Term*, which commences on the 14th of January, and terminates the day before Palm Sunday; *Easter Term*, the first day of which is the tenth after Easter Sunday, and the last, the day before Whit-Sunday; and *Trinity Term*, which lasts from the Wednesday after Whit-Sunday till the Saturday after the Act[†], both days inclusive.

For the degree of *Bachelor of Arts*, sixteen terms^{*} must be kept; and for a *Mastership in Arts*, twelve more. Seven years afterward the degree of *Bachelor in Divinity* may be taken; and, in four more, that of *Doctor in Divinity*. If a Master of Arts chooses to

† The *Act*, or time of completing the superior degree in the several faculties, which always takes place on the Monday after the 7th of July, is generally attended with "many solemnities, and festivities."

* Sons of British and Irish Peers, when matriculated as such, are allowed to stand for a Bachelor's degree at the end of three years.

proceed in Law, he may become a Bachelor in that faculty at the end of three years, and a Doctor at the end of four years more. The degree of Bachelor in Civil Law may be taken, without proceeding through Arts, in seven years, and that of Doctor at the end of four additional years. A Master of Arts may graduate as Bachelor in Medicine, one year after taking the former degree, and as Doctor in the same faculty, in three years more. But for some of the terms, here mentioned as necessary to be kept before taking certain degrees, a dispensation is usually allowed.

Previously to taking a Bachelor's degree in Arts, the candidate must, in the first place, (after the beginning of his sixth, and before the end of his ninth term,) publicly *respond*^a before the Masters of the Schools: secondly, at the end of two years from his matricula-

^a The exercise called *responsions*, which is performed thrice a year, consists of an examination in the classics, in the rudiments of logic, and in Euclid's Elements.

tion, be created *General Sophist* : thirdly, attend, at least twice, the *Readings of the Determining Bachelors* : and, fourthly, undergo a *Public Examination* ^b in the rudiments of the Christian Religion, the Classics, Rhetoric, Logic, Moral Philosophy, the Elements of Mathematics, and of Natural Philosophy. And here let it be remarked, that, how well soever the candidate might acquit himself in other respects, any deficiency with regard to the rudiments of the Christian Religion, (in which are included an accurate knowledge of the Gospels in the original Greek, of the 39 Articles, and of the evidences of religion both natural and revealed,) would infallibly preclude him from obtaining his degree ^c.

^b The *Public Examiners* are four in number ; they must be at least Masters of Arts, or Bachelors of Civil Law ; are nominated annually by the Vice-Chancellor and Proctors, and approved by Convocation ; and must all be present during the examinations.

^c Much useful information relative to the University, its usages, &c. may be found in a volume entitled the "*UNIVERSITY CALENDAR*," which, as also an Almanack, adorned with a capital engraved view of some

Every Bachelor of Arts is to *determine* in the Lent after he has taken his degree^d. This exercise should consist in reading two dissertations composed in Latin prose, on classical or philosophical subjects; but, for one of the dissertations may be substituted a copy of Latin verses on any subject approved by the Masters of the Schools.

Candidates for a Bachelor's degree in Law, Medicine, or Divinity, must dispute on two separate days before the Professors of the respective faculties. The candidate in Divinity must also preach a Latin sermon at St. Mary's before the Vice-Chancellor. Candidates for a Bachelor's degree in Law, who have not proceeded through Arts, must, like all other under-graduates, respond before the Masters of the Schools, and be publicly examined^e.

public building, &c. connected with the University, is published annually.

^d The number of determining Bachelors this year (1817) was 143.

^e For an account of the Examinations, &c. see pp. 282—288.

For a Doctor's degree in any of these faculties, three distinct lectures must be read in the Schools ^f.

Three *Prizes*, of twenty pounds each, are annually given by the Chancellor of the University, for the best compositions in Latin verse, Latin prose, and English prose. An annual prize for a copy of English verses (not exceeding 50) on ancient sculpture, painting, and architecture, was bequeathed by the late Sir Roger Newdigate, who, during the last year of his life, himself gave such a prize. The subjects for these prizes are commonly proposed by the Vice-Chancellor at the end of Michaelmas term, and the prizes themselves are awarded by the Vice-Chancellor, the Proctors, the Public Orator, and the Poetry Professor. At the *Commemoration of Founders*

^f Candidates for all degrees, who, at the time of their graduation, possess a benefice or benefices, rated in the King's books at 40l. per annum, or who possess an annual income, derivable from any source but an academical one, of 300l. must, as it is termed, go out *Grand Compounders*.

and *Benefactors*, the successful compositions are publicly recited in the theatre.

The *Discipline* kept up in the several Colleges is very exact. Every student must, at least till he has taken his first degree, reside in some College or Hall. He must have a Tutor, perform all exercises with punctuality, observe all statutes, and be obedient to the Head of the House. He must never be seen abroad without his academical habit^s, and

▪ The first dresses of students are supposed to have been made in imitation of those worn by the Benedictine Monks, who were the chief restorers of literature. Of some of the *ordinary* habits worn at present, a brief description may not be unacceptable. A *Master of Arts* wears a gown of Prince's stuff, and a hood of black silk, lined with crimson; the gown is remarkable for the semicircular cut at the bottom of the sleeve. *Bachelor of Arts*, Prince's stuff gown looped up at the elbow, and terminating in a point; black hood lined with fur. *Nobleman*, black silk gown with full sleeves; a tippet like that worn by the Proctors attached to the shoulders. *Gentleman Commoner*, silk gown plaited at the sleeves. *Commoner*, gown of Prince's stuff, no sleeves, a black strip appended from each shoulder reaches to the bottom of the dress, and,

must not be out of College at a later hour than nine in the evening.

Such students as are not upon the different foundations, are divided into the four classes of *Noblemen*, *Gentlemen Commoners*^b, *Commoners*, and *Servitors*.

The number of Academians of all classes

towards the top, is gathered into plaits. *Student of Civil Law*, plain silk gown, with lilac hood. *Scholar*, plain stuff gown with full sleeves. *Servitor*, gown like the Commoner's, but without plaits at the shoulder. Square black caps are worn by all ranks; but those of Noblemen and of Gentlemen Commoners are of velvet. A gold tassel also distinguishes the cap of nobility. The cap worn by the Servitor has no tassel; but those of every other rank are distinguished by black ones. The *Proctors* wear the gown of a Master of Arts, with ermined hood and velvet sleeves.

^b A class called Fellow Commoners is recognized at Worcester College. At All Souls and New Colleges no students are admitted except those on the foundation; at Corpus Christi only six Gent. Commoners, and no Commoners; at Magdalen none but Gentlemen Commoners are admitted.

is now about 3000; for the reception of whom there are twenty Colleges and five Halls. These and the Public Buildings of the University will be found described, and, it is hoped, faithfully described, in the "WALKS." It may be well to mention, that the buildings of each College or Hall consist principally of the *Chapel*, the *Library*, the *Hall* or Refectory, the *Lodge*, or rooms appropriated as the residence of the Head, *Apartments for Fellows and Students*, and the *Common Room*.

The *Limits* of the University extend about five miles round the City in every direction.



Walks in Oxford.



Engraved by J. D. P. from a Drawing by G. S. P.

See the Middle of the River, Published by J. D. P. 1847

ENTRANCE TO OXFORD, FROM LONDON.

Walks in Oxford.

ON an eminence of scarcely perceptible elevation, at the confluence of the rivers Isis and Cherwell, in the bosom of a delightful valley, surrounded by luxuriant meadows, and, at greater distance, environed by gently swelling hills, which smile in all the pride of cultivated beauty, and are richly diversified by hanging wood, stands the fair City, through which, and the celebrated University contained within its limits, it will be the object of the following sheets faithfully to guide the curious stranger.

Till of late years, even the great roads leading to this venerable Seat of the Muses were, in the best weather, rough and heavy; in winter almost impassable; but now, from what point soever the traveller advances upon Oxford, he has the satisfaction of finding his approach facilitated by spacious roads, kept in excellent repair. The principal entrances to the City are all likewise

good; that from the metropolis is magnificent, and naturally claims priority of description. Two great roads lead from the British capital to Oxford; one of which runs by Henley-on-Thames, and the other by High or Chipping Wycombe. They both converge upon the small church of St. Clement, in the eastern suburb; whence an advance of a few yards in a westerly direction places the stranger upon a bridge of rather uncommon form, but of peculiar elegance, named, from the adjoining College, Magdalen bridge. From this point, the eastern prospect of the City is singularly rich and captivating. In front, on the right, is the before-mentioned College with its lofty tower, and on the left, the Botanical Garden with its handsome portal. Beyond, steeples of almost every varied form are seen shooting up in different degrees of elevation, above the rich intermixture of trees and buildings presented by the City. To the bridge, a short street succeeds, bearing the name of Bridge Street, which soon, losing its own appellation, becomes under the name of High Street, confessedly one of the most magnificent of which any European city can boast. Sweeping along in a gentle curve, of a most expansive width, well paved, excellently flagged, and bordered by a picturesque assemblage of public and private edifices, it is indeed perhaps without a rival. In viewing it, eye does not re-

WALKS IN OXFORD.

pose on splendid uniformity, but on an enchantingly varied *whole*; and when, satisfied with viewing the entire perspective, we commence an examination of individual beauties, we perceive with delight, that of such the graceful curvature of the street presents a new one at almost every step. The Colleges of Queen's and All Souls, with the Churches of St. Mary and All Saints, ornament the northern side of the street; while the venerable front of University College dignifies and adorns the southern. As we advance towards the west, the private dwellings become more stately, and the increased number of richly furnished shops proclaims our near approach to the heart of the City. At length, St. Martin's Church, and the colonnade of the old Butter Market, present themselves to close the perspective.

At this point three other streets, from the south, west, and north, respectively, also terminate; forming, by their union with High Street, the celebrated *Carfax*, a name familiar to every one in the smallest degree conversant with the academical annals of Oxford. Here, till the year 1787, stood "a very fair and beautiful Conduit," of which, in a subsequent part of our volume, a brief description will be given. And hither, as the most central, and therefore most suitable point, we shall repair, previously to the commencement of

our several *Walks* through the Colleges and other Public Buildings of the University and City; to all of which we offer our services faithfully to conduct the stranger in Oxford: stipulating however, that he shall confide wholly to us the planning and ordering of each perambulation; and that if, at any time, we appear to forget him, he shall on no account be offended; as our fault will be involuntary, and may, we trust, find its apology in the interesting nature of the contemplations that will have led to its commission.

The Colleges to which we purpose introducing our stranger on his

First Day's Walk,

are those of LINCOLN, JESUS, EXETER, BRASEN-
NOSE, and ALL SOULS.

Proceeding from Carfax along High Street, and turning up the first opening on our left-hand, we see before us, a little beyond the Church of All Saints,

LINCOLN COLLEGE^a,

which, in the southern face of the Chapel, presents to the advancing visitor its most attractive fea-

^a This College has sometimes been made to usurp, from Lincoln's fair minster, the honour of being regarded by his Satanic

ture. This side, ornamented by a parapet and most elegant Gothic bow window, has but lately been laid open to the street, by the removal of a number of houses belonging to the College, in order to connect it with All Saints Church, which forms a part of its original foundation. This must certainly be reckoned among the greatest modern improvements. And under the auspices of the present Rector, Dr. Tatham, who when a junior member of the University displayed his skill in architecture and zeal for the splendor of Oxford, in his *Oxonia explicata et ornata*, we may hope to see other parts of the College equally improved. In the front of this College are two gateways; the farther of which, worked under a plain square tower, leads into the larger of two courts; in which courts, with the exception of an edifice of later construction in the grove, the whole buildings of the establishment are comprised. These buildings are low, and of plain architecture; still, as specimens of the more ancient mode of constructing Colleges, they possess some portion of interest.

•
Majesty with a look of peculiar malignity. "Some," says Fuller, "fetch the original of this proverb, *He looks as the Devil over Lincoln*, from a stone picture of the Devil, which does, or lately did, over-look Lincoln College; though it is conceived that the saying originally related to the Cathedral Church in Lincoln."

In the larger quadrangle are contained the Hall, the Library, the Common Room, and the apartments of the Rector. On the walls of the latter are carved a *beacon* and a *tun*, the rebus of Bishop Beckington, at whose expence the Lodgings were constructed; on other parts of the quadrangle appear *three bucks trippant*, commemorative of Archbishop Rotheram, another benefactor, whose arms these were.

The HALL, situated on the eastern side of the court, is a well-proportioned room, handsomely wainscotted, and decorated with the arms and portraits of the Founders, and some of the principal Benefactors.

During the unhappy periods of the Usurpation, the LIBRARY of this College shared the fate of several others, in being despoiled of many rare and valuable Manuscripts. Subsequent benefactions, however, particularly one of 500*l.* by Sir Nathaniel Lloyd, of the duplicates of a Library, presented in 1755 by M. St. Amand to the Bodleian, and of many estimable Greek and Latin MSS. collected by the Rev. Sir George Wheler during his travels in the Levant, have again replenished its shelves. The books are now, after two or three removals, deposited in an apartment, neatly fitted up, on the northern side of the court.

Besides the arms of different benefactors, three portraits ornament the walls of the Library ; namely, of Bishop Flemmynge, Founder of the College ; of Archbishop Rotheram, the next great benefactor ; and of Lord Crewe, to whose almost princely munificence many excellent charities and many noble benefactions bear ample testimony.

Bishop Flemmynge was born at Crofton, near Wakefield, in Yorkshire. He was of a good family, and early in life became a student of University College, where he greatly distinguished himself as a scholar. While yet a young theologian, he embraced the opinions of Wickliffe ; and, being naturally of an ardent and impetuous temper, displayed a more than ordinary zeal in the propagation of them. Ere long, however, he abandoned the reforming cause, and signalized himself as an equally if not more strenuous vindicator of the doctrines of the Romish Church. Strange as this versatility may appear, there is every reason for believing Flemmynge to have been a sincere convert to the latter ; for when he founded his College, at which period he must have relinquished almost every hope of farther preferment, the end which he chiefly had in view was the formation of a school of divines, who were to employ their talents in opposing the progress of the Wicklivian heresy. Having taken

Holy Orders, Flemmynge, in the year 1406, obtained a prebendal stall in the cathedral of York ; and in 1420 was advanced to the episcopal bench as Bishop of Lincoln, to which see he received consecration at the hands of the Pope. He also, about ten years afterwards, distinguished himself greatly at the Council of Sienna, convened for the purpose of devising means to oppose the progress of the reformers. Soon after which, Pope Martin V. proposed his translation from the Bishopric of Lincoln to the Archiepiscopal see of York ; but to this measure, notwithstanding our Prelate's firm support of the then prevailing faith, the King, with the Dean and Chapter, opposed so strenuous a resistance, as to induce the Pope to relinquish his design. Four years before Bishop Flemmynge's death, which took place in 1431, he had obtained from King Henry VI. a licence to found in the Church of All Saints, Oxon. a College for a Warden or Rector, seven Scholars, and two Chaplains ; to unite with that Church those of St. Mildred and St. Michael ; and to form the whole into one Collegiate Church, by the name of the Church of All Saints ; the Society or College within which was to be styled, *The College of the Blessed Virgin Mary and All Saints Lincoln.*

Death prevented Bishop Flemmynge from proceeding in his benevolent design much farther

than the purchase of a site for the intended buildings; and although some additional benefactions were received, the foundation may be said to have languished till the year 1474. In that year Bishop Thomas Scott, (better known by his surname De Rotheram, acquired from the place of his birth,) being on a visitation of his diocese of Lincoln, to which at that time Oxford belonged, was present at a discourse delivered by John Tristroppe, the third Rector on Bishop Flemmynge's foundation, on whom it had fortunately devolved to preach the visitation sermon. In performing this duty, the preacher made so powerful an appeal to the feelings of his illustrious auditor in favour of the College, that the Bishop, greatly affected, rose up, and gave a promise of rendering effectual assistance. This promise he performed, (with a liberality that has entitled him to the honour of co-foundership,) by adding five additional fellowships, bestowing on the College two advowsons, and drawing up for its government a body of statutes.

It is pleasing to reflect, that this, with so many other richly endowed establishments, founded in the dark ages of Popery, and chiefly to support the errors and superstitions of the Church of Rome, are now, under the controlling hand of

Providence, seminaries of useful learning and sound Christian theology.

The buildings of the smaller court, although of far more recent date, possess, with the exception of the Chapel, little claim to the stranger's notice; but the Chapel is a structure of which the visitor of taste will not rest satisfied with a hasty and superficial inspection. Its venerable exterior, embattled, and exhibiting a range of handsome pointed windows, while it appears to additional advantage from being contrasted with the other buildings of the court, seems also to indicate greater antiquity than the Chapel can in reality boast. It was built in the year 1631^b, at the expence of Dr. John Williams, then Bishop of Lincoln, afterwards Archbishop of York, a prelate of great mental powers, and of high literary attainments: memorable likewise as being the last Ecclesiastic who was Lord Keeper of the Great Seal of England.

The interior of the Chapel does not harmonize in style with the exterior; yet it possesses great

^b The College had previously a Chapel dedicated to St. Mildred, which in 1656 was converted into the Library. But, like many other of the older Colleges, this of Lincoln had no Chapel for several years after its foundation, the Society attending divine service at the churches of St. Mildred, All Saints, or St. Martin's.

neatness and elegance, and is rich in decorative appendages. A handsome cedar screen, formed by fluted Corinthian columns into three divisions, and ornamented by fine carving, is placed between the ante-chapel and the part appropriated to divine worship. The ceiling of the latter is also of cedar, and, besides the arms of benefactors, exhibits a profusion of other carving, festoons, palms, &c. The windows are completely filled with painted glass, purchased in Italy by the before-mentioned Dr. John Williams. In the four windows on the southern side of the Chapel are full-length figures of the twelve Apostles; and in those on the opposite side, an equal number of Prophets, some of which, and especially the three figures over the entrance, are paintings of no ordinary merit. The painted glass of the great eastern window is arranged in twelve compartments. In the lower six of these are represented an equal number of events in Jewish history, typical of the six leading circumstances of our blessed Saviour's mission. The first subject is the *Creation of Man*, typical of the *Birth of Jesus*, which is represented immediately above it. Then follow in succession the miraculous *Passage of the Red Sea*, the *Institution of the Passover*, the *Elevation of the brazen Serpent*, the *Deliverance of Jonah from the belly of the Whale*, and the *Translation of Elijah*, respectively typical of the *Baptism*, *Last Supper*, *Cruci-*

fixion, Resurrection, and Ascension of the Blessed Redeemer; all of which are delineated in the compartments above the several types.

Of this College, so little attractive in its exterior, Dr. John Radcliffe, to whom the University is indebted for some of its most useful and ornamental edifices^c, was formerly Fellow. And had not his munificence flowed in this channel, the members of Lincoln must have regretted that some occasion of disgust should have diverted so much of it from his own College; as it is well known, that it was once his intention to have extended and greatly embellished its buildings.

Retracing our steps through both the courts, we now proceed to

JESUS COLLEGE,

the front of which stretches in long line before us on the western side of the street, contributing, with the opposite College of Exeter, and the Chapel of Trinity College in the distance, to form a very pleasing perspective. Considered individually, however, the front of Jesus College has little attraction^d; its only ornamental features being

^c The Library which bears his name, the Infirmary, and the Astronomical Observatory.

^d This side of the quadrangle was re-built in 1756.

a gateway of rustic work, and the eastern window of the Chapel; the latter of which is pointed, and exhibits some delicate tracery.

On entering the first quadrangle of a College, outwardly of so little promise, the tourist will be agreeably surprised to find a neat assemblage of edifices, surrounding a tolerably spacious court, and deriving additional interest from the Chapel on the north, and the Hall on the west. The second or inner quadrangle is of a still superior character. The buildings on three of its sides are uniform, and are distinguished by neatness of appearance. Their style is pleasingly simple. Each of the three stories of which they consist is lighted by a regular series of square-headed windows, each window being composed of two narrow round-topped lights. Around the whole quadrangle runs an ogee-battlement, the effect of which is by no means pleasing, although, from the circumstance of University and Oriel Colleges being similarly decorated, it was probably a favourite architectural ornament of the time. An embattled pentagonal projection from the eastern side of the square exhibits a large and handsome oriel window belonging to the HALL, a room which, although sufficiently spacious, possesses few embellishments beyond the paintings that adorn its walls. Among these are portraits of

Queen Elizabeth, of Charles I. (by Vandyke,) of Charles II. of Sir Eubule Thelwall, (represented as an infant at his mother's side,) and of Sir Leoline Jenkins, a gentleman of great learning, whose loyalty to the unfortunate Charles I. and inflexible adherence to the Church of England, brought on him persecution and imprisonment, and ultimately obliged him to seek refuge in a foreign land. Having survived the reign of fanaticism, and the existence of a power founded on rebellion, and cemented by blood, Sir Leoline became first a Fellow, and afterwards Principal of this College. He was subsequently preferred to other high offices, and was also chosen to represent the University in Parliament. His death took place in 1685. His remains were interred in the Chapel of the College over which he had presided, and to which he had been a liberal benefactor. He it was who built the

LIBRARY, which is situated over the Common Room on the western side of the court. Its original founder was however Sir Eubule Thelwall, of Bathafern Park, Denbighshire, another liberal benefactor, who is said to have expended on the buildings of the College, at different times, not less than 5000*l*. Among the books in this Library are those of the celebrated Edward Herbert, Baron of Cherbury, in Salop.

The CHAPEL, situated in the north-eastern corner of the first court, was erected chiefly by a subscription of Cambrian gentry, for the education of whose sons the College was originally founded by Hugh ap Rice, or Price. This gentleman's father was Rees ap Rees, a wealthy burgess of Brecknock, in which town Hugh was also born about the year 1500. Of his personal history, although he lived in a comparatively recent period, little farther is known than that he graduated at Oxford in 1525 as Doctor of Civil Law, that he was afterwards a Prebendary of Rochester, and subsequently Treasurer of St. David's. His death took place in August 1574, and, as it is supposed, at Brecknock; where, in the church of St. John the Evangelist, he is also thought to have been buried. Wishing to provide for youth of the Principality of Wales the means of an academical education, Dr. Price, at a late period of life, petitioned Queen Elizabeth to found a College for a Principal, eight Fellows, and eight Scholars, which he might endow with 60*l.* per annum. His prayer was granted. Her Majesty issued a charter, dated June 27, 1571, in which the Society is designated *Jesus College, within the City and University of Oxford, of Queen Elizabeth's foundation*; but if, as is probable, the worthy Founder calculated on obtaining for his infant establishment the liberal support of royalty, his expectations were griev-

ously disappointed. The Queen gave some timber from her forests of Shotover and Stow, but she gave nothing more. Dr. Price expended on the buildings more than 1500*l.* and, besides conveying to the Society his estates in the county of Brecon, valued at 60*l.* per annum, left by will, in the hands of Sir Eubule Thelwall, a sum of money, which, at the beginning of the seventeenth century, had accumulated to 700*l.* The income arising from his estates however rapidly decreased; and the very existence of the institution appeared to be threatened, when fortunately a succession of benefactors arose, through whose liberality its revenues were quickly improved into a respectable condition.

The Chapel, as originally constructed, having become inadequate to the accommodation of the increased numbers of the Society, it was found necessary to lengthen it; and it is now divided by two screens into a body, chancel, and ante-chapel. With the exception of the roof, which is wrought into highly ornamented compartments, it does not boast of much decoration. Over the altar is a painting, the gift of Lord Bulkeley, representing St. Michael's victorious conflict with the Devil, copied from Guido. Among other monuments which the Chapel contains, are those of Sir Eubule Thelwall, Sir Le-

oline Jenkins, Bishop Lloyd, and Dr. Jonathan Edwards; the last-named of whom, once Principal of the House, wrote a good deal in defence of the Trinity.

A few curiosities preserved in the BURSARY of this College are usually inspected by curious visitors. They are, first, a bowl of wondrous capacity, eminently indicative of Cambrian hospitality. It was presented by a late Sir Watkin Williams Wynne, is of silver gilt, will hold no fewer than *ten gallons* of the inspiring liquor, and weighs 278 oz. 17 dwts. The accompanying ladle weighs 13½ oz. and will hold half a pint. Secondly, a stirrup of enormous magnitude, said to have been left here by Queen Elizabeth. Thirdly, a curious metal watch. Fourthly, a copy on vellum of the College Statutes, beautifully written, in imitation of printing, by a Mr. Parry, of Shipston on Stour, (late a Fellow of the Society,) of whose skill in the caligraphic art many curious specimens are also preserved in the Bodleian Library.

From the gate of Jesus College, the best exterior view is obtained of

EXETER COLLEGE,

the front of which, immediately opposite, is a regular, handsome structure, extending to the length

of 220 feet, lighted by ranges of uniform windows, and adorned by a central gateway and tower of some magnificence. The very conspicuous ornament, however, which these form is, unfortunately, not in harmony of style with the other parts of the front, which are ancient. To a basement of rustic, in which is wrought the finely arched gateway, succeeds a plinth, from which rise four Ionic pilasters, supporting a semicircular pediment, within which, on the outer face of the tower, are the Founder's arms, and on the inner face, which differs only in this trifling particular, those of Narcissus Marsh, Bishop of Armagh, and George Treby, Esq. Lord Chief Justice of Common Pleas.

The general appearance of the quadrangle, to which we are admitted by this gateway, is very pleasing. The buildings appropriated to residence are three stories high, embattled, and lighted by windows of the ancient form^d. On the north are the Chapel, and the lodgings of the Rector, the latter of which were rebuilt about twenty years ago, in a style of judicious conformity with

^d By the words "ancient form," both here, and wherever else they may occur, we mean that of the windows described in our account of the inner quadrangle of Jesus College, and consisting of two or three narrow pointed or round topped lights, placed beneath square heads.

the surrounding buildings. The southern side of the quadrangle is chiefly taken up by the Hall, an edifice of considerable size, and of so ecclesiastical an aspect, that, were it not for the information implied in a sentence inscribed over the door of the opposite and somewhat similar building, we should inevitably take it for the Chapel. The sentence in question directs us to "seek first the kingdom of God," and there is much wisdom in thus placing it over the portal of the House of God. Scriptural precepts cannot too frequently meet the eye, in connection with edifices set apart for the ordinances of religion.

No provision for a place of worship having been made by the Founder of this College, a licence to build one was obtained by the Society at a pretty early period, in consequence of which a former Chapel was erected. The present edifice was consecrated in 1624, after a Sermon from Dr. Prideaux, the Rector, whose text on the occasion, "*Domus mea domus orationis*," is inscribed on each of the eight windows by which the Chapel is lighted. Instead of the usual division into Chapel and Ante-chapel, this structure is formed into two aisles, (the only instance of the kind amongst the private Chapels in Oxford,) one of which is appropriated to divine worship; the other is used occasionally for divinity lectures. The ceiling is

painted to imitate those groined roofs which, with their delicate intersections, so frequently canopy our more ancient sacred edifices. Over the screens are the arms of Dr. Hakewill, who, when only a Fellow of the house, contributed twelve hundred out of the fourteen hundred pounds which the Chapel cost.

The HALL^f, a fine embattled structure on the southern side of the quadrangle, displays in front a range of five handsome windows, under obtusely pointed arches, besides which, in a projection at its eastern end, is a lofty oriel window, divided by munnions and transoms into eighteen trefoil headed lights^g. An ascent of several steps leads through an ornamented door-way into the interior of the

^f By the workmen employed in excavating the ground for the foundation of this Hall, a stone coffin was dug up, in which were the remains of a man with a crown on his head, and at his side money, together with other things reckoned valuable in those days. In memory of this occurrence, a man's head, crowned, was set up on the southern wall of the cellar beneath the Hall, near the spot in which the coffin was found. *Peshall's Oxford*.

^g This window was splendidly ornamented with ground and painted glass at the sole expence of the present Sir Thomas Dyke Ackland, Bart. whose crest appears in the upper part of each light. And in the two centre compartments are emblazoned, in one the arms of Ackland, and in the other those of the College. The former are also displayed on the screen at the entrance of the Hall, the building having been erected under the patronage of one of that family, about the same time with the Chapel, 1618. His portrait is over the fire-place.

refectory, the southern side of which has also a range of pointed windows looking into Brasen-nose lane. Round each window is a border of coloured glass, which has a good effect^h. The portraits are numerous; at one of which, representing the Founder, Walter Stapledonⁱ, Bishop of Exeter, we must be allowed a short pause.

The Bishop was of a good family in Devonshire, and in the year 1307, was installed with unusual pomp and splendor into the Bishopric of Exeter. So magnificent indeed was the scale of expence on which the ceremonies of his inauguration were conducted, that it is said a whole year's revenue of the see would have proved insufficient to defray the cost of the concluding entertainment. As a statesman, Bishop Stapledon was equally distinguished for splendid abilities, and for incorruptible integrity. His fidelity and attachment to Edward II. remained unshaken, at a time when derelictions of loyalty had become too frequent even to excite surprise; nay, when the very wife of the unhappy Sovereign had traitorously conspired against her King and husband: and the reward of

^h The whole of the interior has been lately repaired, and finished in a very handsome and tasteful style, particularly the roof, under the direction of Mr. Repton, jun. pupil to Mr. Nash, who suggested the improvements.

ⁱ Painted by the late W. Peters, R. A.

the good Bishop's loyalty was death! death at the hands of a lawless and infuriate rabble! In the year 1396, at the very moment in which he was exerting himself to fulfil the trust reposed in him by his royal master, of keeping the peace of the metropolis by repressing seditious tumults, he was seized by the mob near the northern door of St. Paul's cathedral, inhumanly beaten, dragged to the standard in Westcheap, and there beheaded, along with his brother Sir R. Stapledon, and two of his domestics. Such, in those dark and troublous periods of English history, was but too often the recompence of public virtue. In the year 1814, Bishop Stapledon obtained a charter for founding a Collegiate Society, for whose accommodation he engaged Hart Hall, or, as it was often termed during the abode of his Society within it, Stapledon Hall; which latter appellation, on the removal of the Society to some tenements which the Bishop had purchased for them on the site of the present College, was transferred to their new residence. The Society so removed consisted of a Rector and twelve Fellows, including a Chaplain. The name of Exeter College originated in the year 1404, on the occasion of Edmund Stafford, Bishop of Exeter, founding two new Fellowships.

Another portrait in the Hall represents Sir William Petre, a distinguished public character in the

reign of Henry VIII. and of the four succeeding sovereigns; one who, next to the Founder, was the greatest benefactor that this College ever had; and who, although he participated largely in the plunder of monasteries, was yet fortunate enough to acquire and retain the favour of Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth, as completely as he had that of their predecessors Henry VIII. and Edward VI. Sir W. Petre founded eight new Fellowships, in addition to the former establishment. Three others have been since added; one by King Charles I. for the islands of Jersey and Guernsey, and two by Mrs. Elizabeth Shiers; so that the present foundation consists of a Rector and twenty-five Fellows*.

Among the remaining portraits is one of Charles I. who, after the breaking out of the civil war, made Oxford his principal residence, and found within its walls that steady and respectful loyalty for which the Universities have ever been distin-

* Sir W. Petre was son of John Petre, a rich tanner, of Torbryan, in Devonshire. He was first of Exeter College, then Fellow of All Souls, A. D. 1523: He was afterwards Principal of Peckwater Inn, (now part of Christ Church,) one of the Visitors of Religious Houses, when they were to be dissolved; Secretary of State and of the Privy Council to Henry VIII. Edward VI. and Mary, (in whose time he was Chancellor of the Order of the Garter;) Master of the Requests, and of the Privy Council, to Queen Elizabeth; and seven times Ambassador in foreign countries.

guished. A contribution of plate was levied from the different Colleges by the King, during his stay here, to be coined into money for his immediate supplies. The plate was surrendered by Exeter College with some reluctance, and a receipt, with promise of re-payment for the amount, is still preserved¹, which, it is needless to say, was never discharged. They had before presented him with 300*l*.

Other portraits of the more remarkable persons are those of Narcissus Marsh, who died Primate of Ireland, 1718: J. Conybeare, Rector of Exeter College, 1730, Dean of Christ Church, 1732, and Bishop of Bristol, 1750, grandfather of the present Professor of Poetry: and T. Secker, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1758.

The first LIBRARY of this College appears to have been erected in 1383; but the present one

¹ Received of the Rector and Fellows of Exeter College, in Oxford, in plate, for his Majesty's service, by them presented,

	<i>lb. oz. dwt.</i>		
In white plate	208	4	18
In gilt plate	38	0	3
	<hr/>		
	246	5	1
	<hr/>		

Signed by Sir W. Parkhurst and T. Voushnell, Esq. Officers of the Mint.

was built in 1778, after an elegant though plain design, furnished by the Rev. William Crowe, Public Orator of the University. It is situated in the College garden, a little to the eastward of the quadrangle, and contains an extensive and valuable collection of both printed books and MSS. Among the former is a choice collection of Aldine classics. Of these the greater part were given, besides other books, by Joseph Sanford, B. D. once a member of this Society, and afterwards Fellow of Balliol. As a bare mention of that gentleman's name is all that appears in Mr. Chalmers's account of the College, we give the following extract respecting him from the *Gentleman's Magazine*, part ii. page 212.

“ His rooms at Balliol were in the middle staircase, on the east side of the quadrangle : he used to read at the end of a gallery, without fire, in the coldest weather. On every Friday, in all weathers, he never missed walking to some house, four or five miles off, on the banks of the Cherwell, where he used to dine on fish. I suppose there is no old servant left at Balliol to tell you the name of the place. On his application to the Bishop for ordination, he was introduced to the Chaplain, to whom he was a stranger, and who, as usual, told him he must examine him ; and the first question proposed was, *Quid fides ?* to which Sanford re-

plied in a loud tone, (and increasing it at each answer,) *Quod non vides.* The second question was, *Quid spes?* to which Sanford answered, *Futura res.* The third was, *Quid charitas?* to which he roared out, *In mundo raritas.* Upon which the Chaplain, finding that he had an extraordinary character to deal with, left him, and went to inform the Bishop what had passed below, with a person he knew not what to make of, who had given in his name, Joseph Sanford, of Balliol; which made the Bishop laugh, and exclaim, ‘You examine him! why he is able to examine you and our whole bench! pray desire him to walk up:’ when the Bishop made an apology for the Chaplain, and said he was sorry Mr. Sanford had not applied to him in the first instance. In an evening it was his constant practice to walk his mile up and down Mr. Fletcher’s shop, after he had taken his tea at Horseman’s coffee-house, in the High-street, where he used to meet Mr. Crachet, Dr. Smallwell, and other Christ Church men, who generally used to accompany him to the Turl. He was a profound scholar, and rendered Dr. Kennicott great assistance in his great work of the Hebrew Bible. His extensive library he gave to Exeter College, by a nuncupative will, witnessed by Mr. Fletcher. Dr. Eveleigh, of Oriel, who I think married a daughter of his nephew, Dr. Sanford, formerly Fellow of All Souls, presented a

portrait of him to Exeter College: he is represented with a folio under his arm, which is the first edition of the Hebrew Bible, a book of the greatest rarity, which he bought for a trifle of David Wilson, a bookseller in the Strand; and as soon as he had ascertained his treasure, he never laid the book down, but took it himself to his lodging, and the next morning set out for Oxford, although he had not finished the business which brought him to London, and kept the book in his hands the whole journey, until he had safely lodged it in his room at Balliol. He was so much pleased with this acquisition, that, on Mr. Fletcher's next visit to London, he sent a guinea by him to the bookseller, in addition to what he had first paid him. He died September 25th, 1774, aged 84 years; and was buried in the middle aisle of the parish church of St. Mary Magdalen, Oxon. in which church a monument, with a Latin inscription, has been raised to his memory. He was equally well known for his learning, extensive library, and singularity in dress."

Gent's Mag. Oct. 1816.

In this Library stands also a large and handsome Orrery, the donation of Thomas Blackall, Esq. of Great Haseley, in the county of Oxford, A. D. 1757.

Previously to the year 1708, the old Chapel was the depository of the literary treasures of Exeter College. In that year a fire, which broke out in a neighbouring apartment, consumed nearly the whole interior of the building, and, most unfortunately, the major part of the books contained within its walls. The Bodleian Library, one part of which was but twelve yards distant from that of Exeter College, was in great danger from this fire. As the wind was westerly, the most serious apprehensions were entertained for its safety. Fortunately, however, of the latter there was very little; and assistance being speedily and effectually rendered, a catastrophe so truly lamentable as the destruction of the finest library in the world was happily averted. The books consumed were however soon replaced, and, together with large additions which they received from various subsequent benefactors, occupied for a time their old situation.

Conformably to the plan of this work, we shall record in our Appendix the names of some of the more eminent men produced by each College; but we must here be permitted to select, from the very copious list of great names which Exeter College can exhibit, that of a divine, whose life, while it exemplifies in a very striking manner, the success which industry and perseverance may hope to

command, affords also a melancholy illustration of the instability of human fortune. Dr. John Prideaux, of whom slight mention has been already made, was the child of poor parents, resident at Stowfort, in-Devonshire. Disappointed in an endeavour to obtain the humble appointment of parish-clerk, at the neighbouring village of Ugborough, he left his native county, made his way to Oxford, and became a menial in the kitchen of the very College, over which it was afterwards his fortune to preside. In this servile occupation he so acquitted himself, as to attract the notice of his superiors, by whom he was removed to a situation in which he had better opportunities of acquiring the knowledge after which he panted. The excellent natural abilities which he possessed were now most assiduously cultivated; he became a scholar of the first eminence, and speedily met with that preferment which is the appropriate reward of eminent talents, united to personal worth. A Canonry of Christ Church, the Regius Professorship of Divinity, and the Headship of his College, were successively bestowed upon him. In the latter capacity, so widely extended was his fame as a preceptor, that students flocked from various parts abroad to place themselves under his tuition; and it became necessary to build for their accommodation the house immediately behind the Rector's lodgings, on the northern side of the quadrangle.

Dr. Prideaux held his Rectorship from 1612 to 1642; and in the intermediate time filled the honourable office of Vice-Chancellor. In the year 1641, Charles I. advanced him to the prelacy as Bishop of Worcester; but this was a preferment merely nominal. The Presbyterian party had now gained the ascendancy; the Bishop's revenues were sequestered; and so scanty was the pittance allotted to him out of their ample amount, that he was obliged to sell even his books for a subsistence. His distress was even yet more severe. He was one day met by a friend, in the street of the village at which he resided, walking with something rolled up in his gown, as if with a view towards concealment. His friend enquiring what he had got there, the venerable diocesan, with good-humoured jocularly, replied, that, like an ostrich, he was obliged to make an occasional meal upon iron, discovering at the same time some fragments of that metal, which he was going to sell at the blacksmith's for the means of purchasing himself a dinner. About a year after the murder of his royal patron, Bishop Prideaux's sufferings, which he had borne throughout with a fortitude and resignation truly Christian, were also terminated by death.

Coming out of the quadrangle, and turning round the south-western angle of the College, we

now proceed along Brasen-nose lane^m, into Radcliffe Square, of a view in which Lord Orford remarks, that it presents "such a vision of large edifices, unbroken by private houses, as the mind is apt to entertain of ancient cities which exist no longer." On the north of this magnificent Square are the Public Schools, and on the west the beautiful College of All Souls; the southern side is formed by St. Mary's, the pride of Oxford churches, and the western side is bounded by the venerable front of Brasen-nose College. In the centre of the Square the Radclivian Library rears its classic dome, proudly emulating its neighbours of the older time. The whole does indeed present a most superb "vision of large edifices." Not a single domestic dwelling has been suffered to intrude on the sacred area. The eye luxuriates in an undisturbed contemplation of some of the most sublime efforts of ancient and modern art; while the heart swells with grateful admiration of the piety, the love of learning, the wisdom, and the munificence of the revered fathers to whom Oxford is indebted for them. A particular description will hereafter be allotted to each edifice; but for the present we must confine our attention solely to one, namely, to

^m At the eastern extremity of this lane, just within the angle of Exeter College garden, is a very lofty and fine spreading chesnut tree, much noticed by strangers.

THE KING'S HALL AND COLLEGE OF BRASEN-NOSE,

most of the ancient buildings of which yet remain ; although we have to regret, that in the alterations, dictated by necessity or by convenience, too little attention has sometimes been paid to the original character of those buildings. Towards the northern end of the long irregular range of front which this College presents, a massive square tower rises over the entrance into the principal quadrangle. At the southern extremity of the front appears the western end of the chapel, ornamented by a window of good design, the tracery of which is chiefly formed into a Catherine wheel.

Previously to the heightening of the buildings on each side, the gateway tower must have made an august appearance. Even now, though deficient in comparative elevation, it possesses considerable grandeur of appearance, and is certainly, next to that of Christ Church, the finest gateway tower in Oxford. In its inferior division is the finely arched portal, the gate of which, as an illustration of the singular name borne by the College, exhibits a brasen human face, furnished with a nose of most extravagant dimensions". The

^a So early as the year 1278, an academic Hall stood on part of the site of the present College. It also bore the same appellation,

middle division of the tower is ornamented in excellent taste by four ranges of cinque-foil headed blank arches, two large windows, and a battlement; from within which rises a beautiful embattled oriel window, flanked by vacant niches under coronal canopies. The summit of the tower, and the whole line of front, display also the usual finish of an embattled parapet. The interior face of this fine tower is ornamented in a similar style, but not quite so richly.

The principal quadrangle is of considerable extent, but of very irregular architecture. So little prepossessing indeed is its appearance, that, after enjoying from its north-western corner a view of the interesting group of objects presented by the gateway tower, the Radcliffe Library, and St. Mary's spire, the tourist will find nothing to detain him from the Hall, except perhaps a piece of statuary in the centre of the court, representing Samson, armed with a jaw-bone, in violent personal conflict with a Philistine, whom he is on the point of smiting to the earth°.

most probably from a huge brasen knocker, in the form of a nose, on the portal. At Stamford too, one of the four Colleges had the same name, from the face of a lion or leopard on the main door of the building. When Henry VIII. resorted to the expedient of debasing the silver coin, it was humourously said, that "testons" (sixpences) were gone to Oxford to study at Brasen-nose."

° This piece of sculpture is, by the Guides, called Cain and

The HALL is a room of ample proportions, on the southern side of the court. Over the outer door are two busts, said to have been dug up by the men employed in excavating the foundation of the College; but the story needs confirmation. They represent King Alfred, and John Scotus Erigena; the former of whom was the truly illustrious restorer of learning at Oxford, and the latter, one of the most eminent of her early scholars. The bust of Alfred is particularly well sculptured, and in excellent preservation; the features full of expression. Within the Hall are many portraits; among which two ancient ones, contained in a bay window at the upper end of the room, naturally claim attention first, from their representing Bishop Smyth and Sir Richard Sutton, who were associated in the beneficent work of founding the College.

The first of these benefactors performed a very distinguished part in public life during the reign of Henry VII. He was the fourth son of Robert Smyth, of Peel-house in Widdowes, parish of Prescot, Lancashire. Of his early years little that can be relied on is known, nor is it even certain to which of the Oxford Colleges he be-

Abel; but the jaw-bone wielded by the victor appears to us decisive of its being intended for Samson and one of his Philistine antagonists.

longed. Of his having studied at this University, there cannot, however, be any doubt, since it is on record, that before the year 1492 he had graduated here as Bachelor of Law. His first promotion was to the Clerkship of the Hanaper; to which office were added, in pretty rapid succession, the Deanery of St. Stephen's, Westminster, the Rectory of Cheshunt, the Bishopric of Lichfield and Coventry, and the Presidentship of the Prince of Wales's Council at Ludlow. In 1495 he was translated to the diocese of Lincoln; over which he presided till his death, which took place at Buckden castle on the 2d of January, 1513-14. He was also, in the year 1500, Chancellor of the University.

Sir Richard Sutton, co-founder with the Bishop, was the younger son of Sir William Sutton, Knight, of an ancient family, seated near Macclesfield in Cheshire. Sir Richard followed the profession of law, and in 1498 was nominated one of the Privy Council. In 1513 he held the Stewardship of Sion monastery, Middlesex. He was also frequently chosen one of the governors of the Inner Temple. Uniting with Bishop Smyth in the benevolent design of adding another to the ten noble Colleges of which this renowned seat of learning could even then boast, Sir R. Sutton obtained from University College, in the year

1508, a ninety-two years' lease of Brasen-nose and Little University Halls, with their respective appendages. To these, for which, at the expiration of the lease, an estate was given to University College as an equivalent, were afterwards added Salisbury, Edmund, Haberdashers', Black, Staple, and Glazen Halls^p, together with St. Mary's Entry. On the site of nearly all these stands the College of Brasen-nose; or, to give it its full title, the *King's Hall and College of Brasen-nose*; the original Society of which, by a charter granted to the Founder, Jan. 15, 1511-12, was directed to consist of a Principal and sixty Scholars, who were to be instructed in the sciences of logic and philosophy, and afterwards in divinity. In the revised code of statutes however, given in 1521-22, by Sir R. Sutton, the surviving Founder, the Society is affirmed to consist of a Principal and twelve Fellows, natives of the diocese of Lichfield and Coventry, in which diocese the counties palatine of Chester and Lancaster were at that time comprehended. Towards the endowment of the College both Founders contributed very liberally; and numerous benefactions having been since received, the revenues of the establishment have

^p When Halls became numerous, the most trifling circumstances of accidental distinction were allowed to give them a name. Some of these epithets were sufficiently ludicrous. We read of Ape, Beef, Gutter, Mutton, Perilous, Physic, Pill, and Pittance Halls.

become sufficiently ample to support a considerable additional number of Fellows, Scholars, and Exhibitioners.

Various other portraits adorn the walls of the refectory; namely, an imaginary one of King Alfred, one of Lord Chancellor Ellesmere, of Sarah Duchess of Somerset, of Dean Nowell, of Principals Radcliffe, Yarborough, Yate, and Cleaver, of Mrs. Joyce Frankland, of Lord Mordaunt, and of George Marquis of Buckingham. Mrs. F. who resided chiefly at the memorable *Rye House* in Hertfordshire, and was a liberal benefactress to both our English Universities, is represented holding in her hand a watch of similar appearance to those now termed hunting-watches. The Hall is likewise decorated with busts of the Founders, whose armorial bearings, along with those of other benefactors, are also emblazoned on its windows. It may not be uninteresting to add, that before the present handsome and ample fire-place was presented by Lord Curzon, that is, till about the year 1760, the Hall was warmed by a fire made on a hearth in the centre of the floor[†].

The inner quadrangle is but small; it lies to the southward of the principal one, and is en-

[†] This was also the case in other Colleges, but the practice was not perhaps retained so long in any.

tered by a passage from the south-eastern corner of the latter. It is principally occupied by the Chapel and the Library, and on a first entrance strikes the eye with some portion of grandeur. A nearer view has not however the effect of confirming the favourable impression. Not only do the different buildings exhibit a diversity of style, but even in the several parts of the same building a want of correspondence is perceptible. Previously to the building, between the years 1656 and 1667, of the present CHAPEL, the devotions of the Society were performed in an Oratory over the Buttery, on the southern side of the great quadrangle. Speaking of this Oratory, Mr. Chalmers remarks, that A. Wood very erroneously thought it was never consecrated. What positive evidence may exist of its having been actually consecrated, we do not know; but we have certainly always understood, that mere upper rooms which may have chanced to be used as places of worship, and which might afterwards be converted to secular uses, have rarely, if ever, received episcopal consecration.

Numerous and glaring violations of architectural congruity are observable in the present Chapel, the plan of which is said to have been furnished by Sir Christopher Wren; whose youth, at the time, has been urged in extenuation of the many

departures from established rules observable within the edifice. The excuse is plausible ; and, for our own parts, we could almost wish he had ever continued an equally *young* architect, rather than have introduced into Oxford his favourite style of constructing churches.

Considered in detail, the Chapel before us does certainly afford abundant ground of censure ; yet, singular as it may appear, viewed as a whole, it not only makes a favourable impression, but even possesses an air of grandeur. Its roof, beautifully imitative of those groined stone roofs, for the construction of which our early architects were so famous, its uniform lines of stalls, its lateral ranges of pointed windows, its highly embellished altar, and its glowing eastern window, all combine to produce an impressive and very pleasing effect. The latter is executed in Pearson's best manner, from drawings by J. H. Mortimer, a celebrated pupil of Sir Joshua Reynolds, and who, in 1779, had the high honour of receiving from the King an unsolicited appointment to a Royal Academician's place. Among the sepulchral memorials in the ante-chapel is a bust, esteemed a very striking likeness of Dr. Shippen, a late Principal of the College, to which is appended an epitaph written by Dr. Frewin, an Oxford physician. A monument, executed by Bacon, has also been lately

placed by the Principal and Fellows, to the memory of Bishop Cleaver, late Principal of the College. This Chapel was built in consequence of a subscription so liberal, as to prove also adequate to the erection of a new

LIBRARY, whither we now lead the way. It is situated over an arcade, which is now converted into rooms, between the Chapel and the southern side of the inner quadrangle. The books and MSS. are numerous: among the latter are collations of the classics, with illustrative notes, by Christopher Wasse, an eminent Greek scholar, and one of the boasts of Cambridge at the latter end of the 17th century. Of this gentleman it was that Bentley, with wondrous self-complacency, affirmed, "When I am dead, Wasse will be the most learned man in England;" a prediction rendered nugatory by the previous death of Wasse. The collations and notes in question are attached to the classical part of a valuable collection of books, formerly belonging to Principal Yarborough, and which, the Principal having died intestate, were presented to the Library by his heirs. Here is also preserved a poem, in old French, written about the middle of the 14th century, by the herald of Edward the Black Prince, whose achievements it recites in uncouth verse. A custom, which before the invention of

printing was generally prevalent, obtained in this Library to a perhaps later period than in any other; we mean that of attaching the books by chains to the shelves; a practice discontinued here only in the year 1780, when the interior of the Library was rebuilt by Wyatt, in a style highly ornamental, and similar to those of Oriel and New Colleges.

Besides the buildings contained in the two quadrangles already described, a set of apartments^r, appropriated to the reception of eight students, and a large commodious dwelling-house fronting High Street, are also comprehended in the College edifices. The latter was built in 1770 as a residence for the Principal: but, were a projected plan for rebuilding the College carried into execution, on the magnificent scale laid down in Williams's *Oxonia*, this house and sundry adjoining buildings, the leases of which are yet unexpired, would be taken down, in order to make way for constructing on the line of High Street, which would thus receive an accession of magnificence, a new and splendid southern front.

Opposite to us, as we repass the gate of Brasen-nose, lies the next and the last object of our first day's *Walk*, the College of

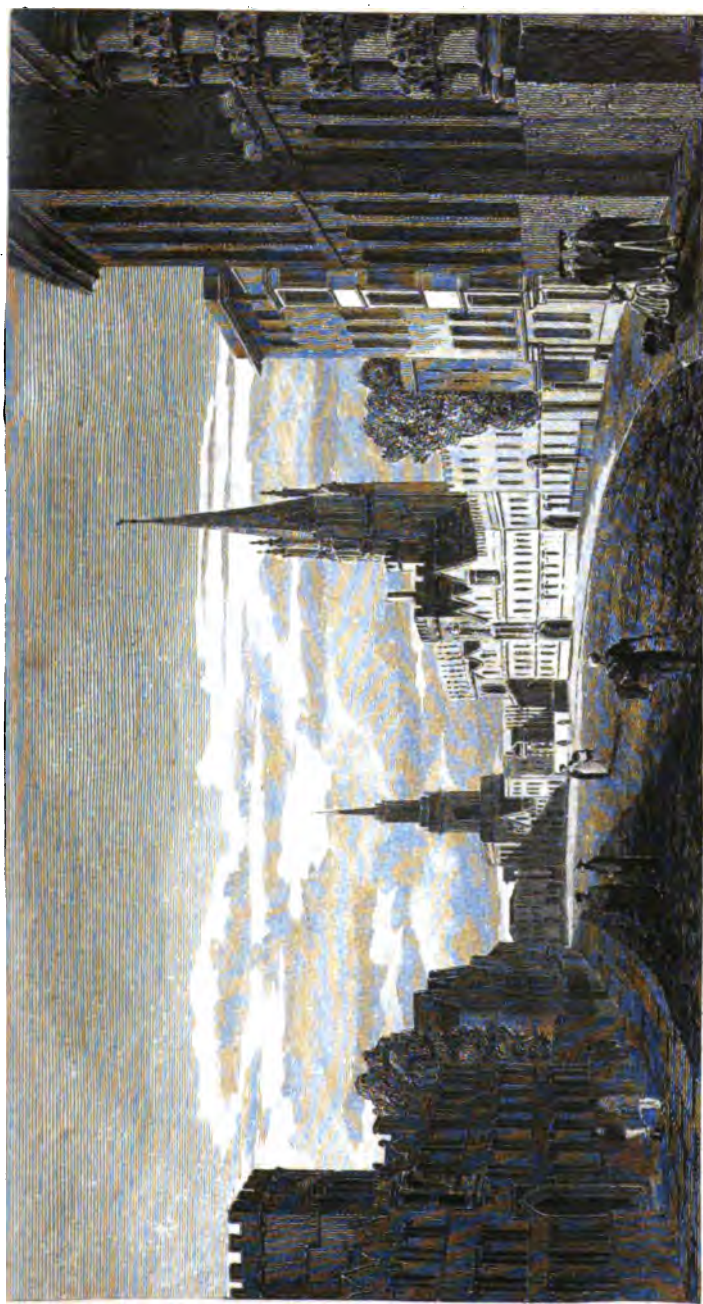
^r Called the New Buildings.

ALL SOULS,

Collegium Omnium Animarum Fidelium defunctorum de Oxon.; so called from an obligation under which the Society lay, to offer up prayers for the good estate of King Henry VI. and of the Founder, during their lives; and for the souls not only of the King and the Archbishop after their decease, but of all subjects who had fallen in the war with France, and of all the faithful deceased.

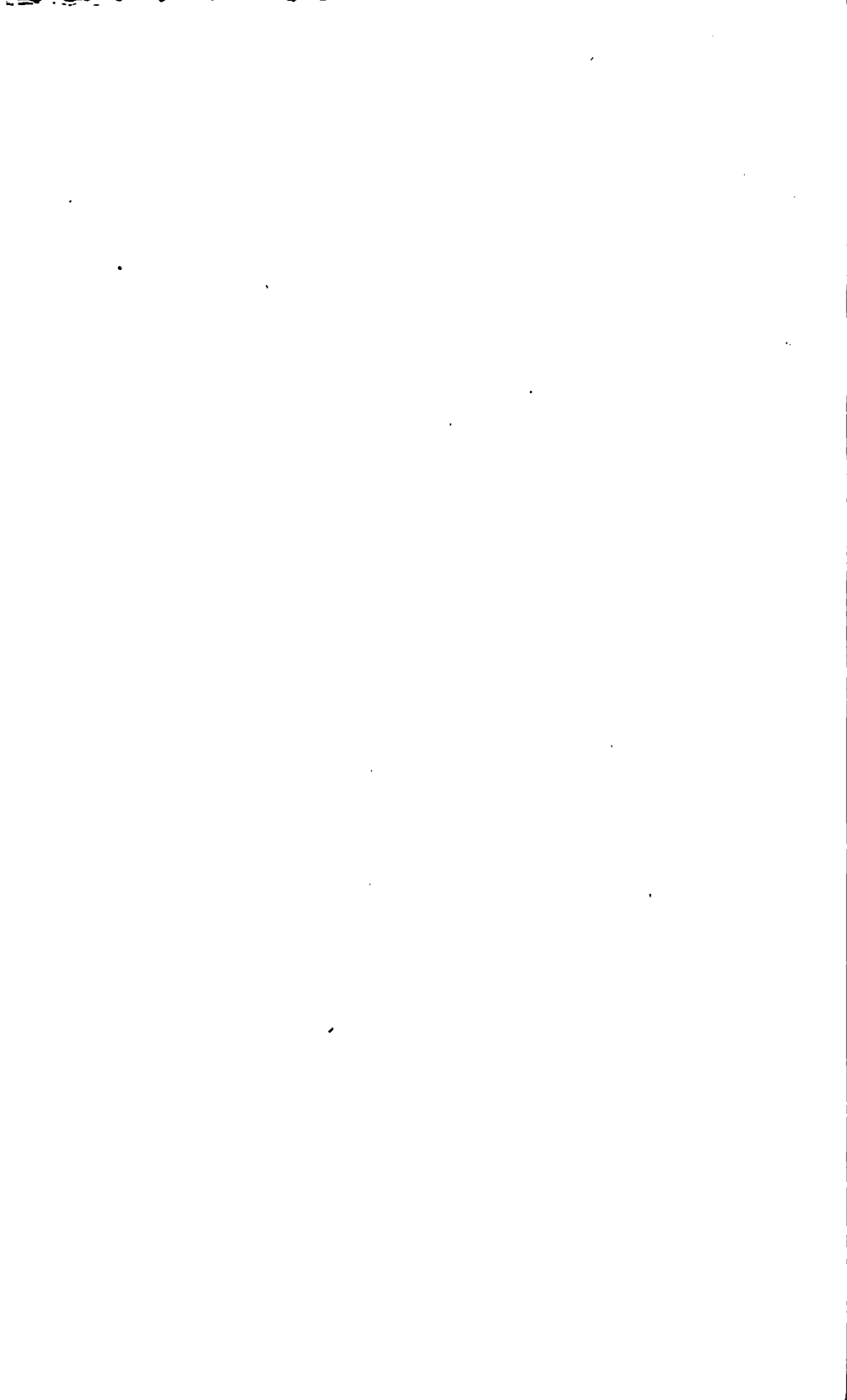
Into this College we shall, as is usual, introduce our stranger from the High Street; but let him first step across the way, and examine with us the southern front of this fair daughter of *Alma Mater*.

Here the venerable predominates; for although the irregularity of its architectural features is too great to admit of its being viewed with unmixed satisfaction, an air of antique dignity still sits upon this aspect of the College, and heightens our regret for the injury which it has sustained from the innovations of modern repair. The door-ways are dissimilar in size and in decoration; the windows have been modernized in complete defiance of uniformity; one part of the parapet is embattled, the other plain; and only one of the gate-



HIGH STREET.

for the Walker in Oxford. Published by R. Pearson, High Street, 1817



ways is surmounted by a tower. This tower is, however, an interesting feature. It rises to a respectable height, is embattled, and ornamented by well-executed statues of Henry VI. and of Archbishop Chichele. Along the front is a range of those grotesque waterspouts, in which many of the ancient buildings of Oxford are so affluent; and nearly adjoining to it on the east, a good dwelling house, the residence of the Warden.

Passing through the tower gateway into the first court, the scene improves upon us. The eye first catches, in front, a part of the Chapel, and a superb dial, on whose ample surface the flight of time is marked with peculiar accuracy; the maker having drawn one whole and two half rays, for the greater divisions of the hour, and having marked the minutes, fifteen in number, on each side of the rays. Sir Christopher Wren, when a Fellow, constructed this dial, and presented it to the College; which is besides indebted greatly to him for the interior arrangement of its Chapel.

The buildings of the first court, which although low, and for the most part plain, are regular, and uniformly embattled, consist principally of the chambers of the Society.

Proceeding through a passage in the eastern

side of this square, we find ourselves in a small court, the sweetly retired air of which is particularly pleasing.

The pointed windows and graduated buttresses which distinguish the building on the north belong to the Hall, into which we now beg permission to lead the way.

Although in point of size this room yields to some of the other College refectories, its proportions are excellent, and it is richly furnished with subjects of decoration. On entering, the eye of the stranger will rest upon a noble statue in white marble, of a Judge, (Blackstone,) whose Commentaries on English law have justly entitled him to the epithet "celebrated," and will transmit his name with distinguished honour to remote posterity. Of this statue, which has great merit, Bacon was the sculptor, and, as a remuneration for his labour, received from the Society four hundred and fifty guineas. Among the other ornaments of the Hall are various paintings, busts, and a series of casts from the antique. At a picture over the chimney-piece we would pause a little, for the purpose of introducing our tourist to Archbishop Chichele, the munificent Founder of the College. This excellent Prelate occupied the archiepiscopal chair of Canterbury at a time in

which the church, as then established, was peculiarly disturbed. Lollardism, as the doctrines and opinions of Wickliffe were termed, was spreading with great rapidity over the land. It consequently became the Archbishop's peculiar duty to exert himself in support of an ecclesiastical establishment, in which he occupied so distinguished a rank, and to which the Wicklivian tenets were so decidedly inimical. A task of so much delicacy and difficulty could not be performed without exciting the enmity of those against whom its operation was directed, and the Archbishop has accordingly been branded with the name of persecutor. But with how little justice he was thus stigmatized, may be inferred from the silence of the virulent martyrologist Fox, who, although ever ready to impugn the conduct and vilify the memory of Catholic ecclesiastics, has found nothing to allege against our venerable diocesan. Archbishop Chichele was born at Higham Ferrars, educated at Winchester, and, by William of Wykeham, made one of the first Fellows of that Prelate's newly-founded College at Oxford. Chichele's promotion in the church was rapid; and, as was generally the case with churchmen of talent, at a period in which laymen seldom received such an education as to fit them for becoming statesmen, he was much employed by his royal masters in affairs of legislation, and in diplomatic negotiations.

In 1407 he was sent by King Henry IV. on an embassy to the Pope*, who at Sienna consecrated him Bishop of St. David's. Hence he was translated to the metropolitan see of Canterbury, over which, during the long period of twenty-nine years, he presided with singular dignity and ability. Equally prudent and spirited, he ever shewed himself a judicious guardian of the interests of the church, as well as a firm supporter of the rights of her ministers; and although favourable to the spiritual authority of the Bishops of Rome, he uniformly opposed their temporal usurpations. He nevertheless received the offer of a Cardinal's hat, but declined to accept it; and, after a long, active, and useful life, had just petitioned for a release from the oppressive cares of his high office, when it pleased the Almighty to release him at once from every earthly care. He died in 1443, and was interred on the north side of the choir of his cathedral church. Besides founding the College of All Souls, he established and supported in this city the Hospital of St. Bernard; afterwards, through additional bounty, converted into the College of St. John.

In the picture which has drawn from us this

* Besides the embassy to Pope Gregory XII. the Archbishop was employed in two other papal missions, and was thrice sent ambassador to the court of France.

biographical sketch, the Archbishop is represented standing under a canopy, and receiving from the architect a plan of the street-front of his College. The dull bluish colour of the piece has an unpleasing effect; but the drawing is good, the attitudes of the several figures are easy and spirited, and their countenances generally expressive.

The first benefit which Chichele conferred upon Oxford was the founding, in 1436, of a College, dedicated to St. Bernard, for scholars of the Cistercian order¹; having completed which, the Archbishop, whose first intentions had not perhaps extended beyond what he had now achieved, happily resolved to follow the example of Wykeham, (and he was the first who did so,) in promoting the advancement of learning, by founding a College for secular students, on a liberal and extensive plan. Pursuant to this resolution, he began to make the necessary purchases of tenements and of ground for a site; having completed which, the foundation-stone was solemnly laid on the 10th of February, 1437. In seven years the buildings were completed, at the expence, including books and other College requisites, of

¹ See our account of St. John's College, and of the religious foundations in Oxford before the dissolution.

4302*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.*^u By the charter, in which, at Chichele's request, King Henry VI. assumed the title of Founder, the Society was to consist of a Warden and twenty Fellows, the latter of whom might be increased to forty. Of these, sixteen were to study the civil and canon law; the remainder philosophy, the arts, and theology^x.

Over this picture is a large one by Sir James Thornhill, representing the *Finding of the Law*, and king *Josiah rending his robe*^y.

On the opposite side of the Hall is a bust, which the antiquarian tourist will regard with peculiar interest, when he finds that it represents the "accu-
rate Leland," as that eminent topographer is

^u The wages of the workmen, who were the most skilful that could be procured, were as follows :

Carpenters and sawyers . . 6*d.* per day.

Masons 8*d.* ditto

Labourers 4½*d.* ditto

Master carpenter 3*s.* 4*d.* per week.

Image makers and carvers . 4*s.* 8*d.* ditto, besides bed and board.

The windows were glazed at 1*s.* per foot.

^x By a clause in this charter, the Society were empowered to buy lands to the annual value of 300*l.* a sum much greater than had ever before been allowed to any foundation. Charters, however, granted by Charles I. and George II. have increased the Society's power of making purchases to 1050*l.* per annum.

^y 2 Kings xxii. 11.

emphatically styled. This accomplished antiquary was one of the brightest stars in our literary hemisphere, during the reign of the Eighth Harry; who, although not handed down to us as a distinguished patron of letters or of learned men, bestowed upon Leland encouragement of the most liberal kind. The admirable work which, under that monarch's auspices, Leland began and completed, is well known; a work which, if due allowance be made for the quaint phraseology of the age, will be found no less elegant than accurate. As a faithful record of the condition of towns, the state of property, and the appearance of the country, at the time in which it was written, it cannot be too highly estimated. It is a fountain from which all succeeding topographers and tourists have drawn so plenteously, that we question whether there be in the whole Itinerary a dozen lines that have never been quoted. As the bust before us shews a countenance emaciated, furrowed with wrinkles, and bearing every indication of premature decay, it probably represents Leland at that calamitous period, in which the affliction of losing his royal patron having been superadded to the extreme grief with which he had witnessed the barbarous destruction of conventual libraries, his corporeal and intellectual faculties sunk into ruins beneath the stroke. After languishing for some time in a state of

hopeless insanity, he expired at the early age of thirty-nine.

Another bust represents Linacre, a celebrated physician of the 15th century, first Professor of Greek at Oxford, one of the founders of the College of Physicians, London, and founder of the Physic Lectures at Merton College.

In addition to the embellishments already noticed, the Hall contains portraits of the Founder, of Colonel Codrington, and of Sir Nathaniel Lloyd; having enumerated which, and just hinted to our friend, that, if he be *indeed an antiquary*, he will find in the roof of the College-buttery* some gratification for his taste, we proceed into the grand quadrangle, in which the triumph of appropriate college-architecture may almost be deemed complete.

We would recommend our stranger to take his first station in front of the Common Room, between the two splendid towers that grace the eastern side of the square; and then to give himself up to the delighted emotion, with which, if he possess a taste for the beauties of architecture, he cannot but contemplate an assemblage, to equal which search would perhaps be vain.

* In the buttery is a bust of Hawksmoor the architect.



From the Westward.

Part of All Souls inner Quadrangle &c.

J. G. Johnson del.



On the right hand and on the left are long ranges of building, embattled, pierced with pointed windows, and at regular intervals supported by slender graduated buttresses, which terminate in lofty knotted pinnacles. The western side of the court is formed by an arcade of light, though rather plain, architecture, having in the centre a gateway, through which is the entrance from Radcliffe Square. From the angles of the gateway spring four lofty spiral pinnacles, flanking a turret of much elegance, nearly in the shape of an imperial crown. The spaces between the ribs of the crown are filled up with masonry, the ribs themselves richly studded with floral knots, and the point at which they all unite is surmounted by a well-sculptured acorn. Just beyond the gate, the proud dome of the Radcliffe Library rises in graceful magnificence, seeming as if placed there on purpose to give a splendid finish to the scene; while, over the left hand corner of the area, the delicately taper spire of St. Mary's Church shoots up into the air, displaying, as if in conscious pride, the singularly beautiful cluster of pinnaced and canopied enrichment that ornaments its base. It is here that Oxford (in the words of her poet, who probably had this very prospect in his mind when he wrote the stanza) may preeminently be seen to

——— lift her head sublime
Majestic in the moss of time ;
Nor wants *she* Grecia's better part,
'Mid the proud piles of ancient art ;
Nor decent Doric to dispense
New charms 'mid old magnificence ;
While here and there soft Corinth weaves
Her dædal coronet of leaves ;
While, as with rival pride, her tow'rs invade the sky.

Proceed we now to the north side of the square, through a door, in which admission is gained into the LIBRARY; a room of the most ample dimensions, measuring in length one hundred and ninety-eight feet, and in breadth, exclusive of the recess, thirty-two and a half. Opposite to the entrance is a fine marble statue of Colonel Christopher Codrington, the gentleman to whom All Souls is indebted for her noble repository of the treasures of literature. The Colonel, though a Barbadian by birth, was educated at Christ Church, and thence elected to a Fellowship of All Souls. Here, while participating in the bounty of the Founder, he imbibed also a similar munificence of spirit; and although on leaving the University he entered on the bustling activity of a military life, he ceased not to cherish the remembrance of his beloved College. Some time after

the commencement of his military career, his courage and fidelity in the service of William III. were recompensed by the Captain-generalship of the Leeward Islands. On the 7th of April, 1710, Colonel Codrington died in his native island of Barbadoes, where, in the church of St. Michael, his remains were first deposited; but being afterwards disinterred, they were brought across the Atlantic, and now rest beneath the hallowed pavement of the College Chapel. Besides a collection of books, estimated at 6000*l.* the Colonel bequeathed to All Souls the sum of 10,000*l.* to be expended in building and furnishing a suitable Library; in consequence of which munificent bequest, the present noble room was erected, and opened in the year 1756*.

The bookcases, richly furnished with general literature, and containing, besides numerous rare manuscripts, many scarce and valuable foreign books, are ranged in two tiers, the upper one of which is accessible by a gallery. Over this tier are placed, alternately with vases, busts of some of the more eminent Fellows of the Society, exe-

* Although Colonel Codrington's noble bequest in aid of letters has given him a far more permanent record in "life's book" than any literary effort of his own could have done, he is not quite unknown as a writer. Four of his poems are in the *Musa Anglicana*.

cuted in bronze by Sir Henry Cheere; who was also the sculptor employed upon the statue already mentioned.

Doric and Ionic pilasters, fluted, and painted of a dark olive green colour, divide the bookcases from each other.

Around the room is a continuous bench, before which, for the convenience of study, reading desks are placed at proper intervals. Over the principal doorway is a fine bust, by Roubilliac, of the Founder of the College; and in a glass case, behind the statue of Codrington, is a planetarium, kept in motion by machinery, wound up once in eight days.

On a table in the vestibule of the Library the virtuoso may regale upon a rich morsel of antiquity. This is a tripod altar found at Corinth, and in 1771 presented to this College by Anthony Lefroy, Esq. It is by connoisseurs deemed unique, and bears on its pedestal the following inscription:

ARAM. TRIPODEM.

OLIM. MATRI. DEUM.

IN. TEMPLO. S. CORINTHI.

CONSECRATUM.

In its windows are some interesting specimens of ancient stained glass; so ancient indeed, as to be reckoned coeval with the foundation. These specimens consist chiefly of figures, ill drawn, but possessing in the draperies all that dazzling brilliancy of colour which constituted the chief merit of the old school of glass painting. Another curiosity in the room is a large engraving, which by means of a sliding board, inscribed with their names, shews the exact elevation of the more remarkable mountains, cities, &c. in the world. During the visit which, in 1814, the Prince Regent, with the Sovereigns his illustrious guests, paid to the University, a public breakfast was given to them in this Library: whence we now proceed to the

CHAPEL, which, although modernized within, retains unaltered its venerable exterior.

This is of the kind of architecture generally denominated Gothic, a barbarous term; instead of which, following the example of the Society of Antiquaries, we shall adopt the term English, or pointed, in our description of edifices, constructed in what we have ever thought the only style possessed of that solemn and majestic character which ought to distinguish the temples of the Most High. Much as we admire in proper situations

the Grecian orders, we should we confess have pleasure in finding them wholly excluded from religious structures; and it is with genuine satisfaction that we hail a returning taste for our ancient mode of building churches. That style of sacred architecture, which Sir Christopher Wren was the chief agent in rendering popular, and which the worthy Dr. Aldrich was but too successful in introducing among the venerable fanes of Oxford, seems at length to have had its day. Many of the churches and chapels lately erected in England are respectable imitations of our ancient ecclesiastical edifices; and in the two principal cities of Scotland, three places of worship (two for Scottish Episcopalians, and one for Roman Catholics) are now erecting, which, when completed, will deserve to rank among the most beautiful modern specimens of the style in question.

On entering the ante-chapel of All Souls, the mind is forcibly impelled to a consideration of the shortness of human existence. The sepulchral memorials are very numerous, and many of them possess an interest, which leads us to regret the necessity imposed by our limits of passing them over without farther notice.

Proceeding through Sir Christopher Wren's elegant screen into the choir, we find our regards

attracted to the roof, which is painted in compartments, and although rather profusely gilt, possesses much of a sombre grandeur. Unlike the majority of College Chapels, this of All Souls is not illumined by

“ storied windows richly dight ;”

yet those which it does possess may be with truth described as

“ casting a dim religious light.”

It has indeed always struck us, that, even in the brightest day, a peculiarly solemn and grateful light is diffused through the interior of this fine Chapel.

With the exception of the western one, executed by Eggington, these windows were painted in *chiaro scuro*, by Lovegrove of Marlow. Eggington's window is painted in compartments, each of which represents an empty niche. It harmonizes well with the others, and may be seen to great advantage from the north side of the choir. Alternately with the side windows are full-length figures, painted in high relief, of the four Fathers, Jerome, Ambrose, Augustine, and Gregory, called in the Statutes, “ Soci Patroni ;” King Henry V.; Reginald Pole, Archbishop of Canterbury; King

Henry VI.; the Founder, Chichele; Thomas, Duke of Clarence; and Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester; and on each side of the altar, painted in a similar way, is a gigantic vase, ornamented with bas-relief representations of the institution of the two Sacraments. All these are from the pencil of Sir James Thornhill, as is also a large painting over the altar of the Founder.

Beneath the latter picture is one by Mengs; the subject what painters, in allusion to the words addressed by our Saviour to Mary Magdalen after his resurrection, style, a "*Noli me tangere.*" This piece has undoubtedly merit; but it has we think been praised too highly, and with too little discrimination. The attitudes of the Saviour and of Mary are certainly fine; the colouring of both figures approach to excellence, and the Redeemer's countenance beams forth a union of mild benevolence and dignified composure; but we confess ourselves to have been unable to discover that exquisitely fine expression of joy, mingled with astonishment, and chastened by reverential awe, by which the face of Mary has so often been said to be distinguished. It may almost seem invidious to remark, that a tree in the back ground is an absolute deformity.

The altar itself, which is of a fine clouded

marble, was presented, along with its furniture, by Dr. Clarke; who also gave his commodious dwelling house, for the use of future Wardens. He was coadjutor with Sir Christopher Wren and Sir James Thornhill, in giving to this Chapel, about the commencement of the 18th century, a thorough interior renovation.

To the eastern side of the grand quadrangle we would now in the last place direct attention. This, and indeed the whole general effect of the buildings which compose the square, may best be viewed from the great western entrance. Speaking of this quadrangle, even the captious and prejudiced Lord Orford allows, that its architect has produced "a picturesque grandeur not devoid of sublimity;" though who that architect was his Lordship shews himself entirely ignorant, by attributing to Gibbs what was in reality the work of Hawksmoor^b.

It is the eastern side of the court, whence arise those sister towers which are justly the pride of All Souls, and which deserve to be considered

^b The architects employed by Chichele were John Druel, (Archdeacon of Exeter,) and Roger Keys; both of whom became Fellows of the Society, and the latter afterwards Warden.

among the finest architectural ornaments of the University. They are of three gradations, and diminish as they ascend. The first or lowest division of each rises to a considerable height above the adjoining buildings, and is supported at each angle by double graduated buttresses. Around its summit runs an elegant perforated battlement, and from its corners spring four lofty knotted pinnacles. From within the battlements rises another and far more slender division of the tower, to which, though really square, an octagonal appearance is given by the position of its angular abutments. In each face of this division is a long and narrow pointed window, through which, with its opposite, when viewed from any of the four cardinal points, the light appears, and communicates a wonderful airiness of effect. From this second stage, a turret of still smaller dimensions rears its elegant head, crowned by a parapet of open work, which, with four delicate pinnacles, enriched with crockets, gives an inexpressibly light and graceful finish to these peerless towers.

From what point of vicinage soever Oxford is contemplated, these spiry structures enrich the prospect; but to the stranger, who wishes to enjoy at once a near and a picturesque view of them, we would recommend that which presents itself

on emerging from a gateway leading from New College-lane to St. Peter's in the East^c.

^c Relative to the date of foundation, &c. additional benefactors, number of Fellows, eminent members of the College, &c. information will be found in our Appendix, to which we refer the reader: but we should, we fear, scarcely be forgiven, were we altogether to omit the mention of a singular custom which formerly obtained in this College, of celebrating what was termed the Mallard Night. Tradition says, that when preparing to lay the foundation of the original buildings, the workmen found in a sewer, or drain, a *mallard* of enormous size; in commemoration of which singular circumstance, the festival of the Mallard was formerly held on the night of every 14th of January. This observance exists no longer; but on one of the College *gaudies* there is still sung in memory of the occurrence a "*merry old song, set to ancient music.*" We will not offend the delicacy of our readers by transcribing the whole of this *merry lyric*, but as a gratification of their curiosity we present them with a single stanza:

Therefore let's sing and dance a galliard
To the remembrance of the Mallard:
And as the Mallard dives in pool,
Let us dabble, duck, and dive in bowl.
Oh by the blood of King Edward,
Oh by the, &c.
It was a swapping, swapping Mallard.

Guiltless however of humour as is this song, the story of the Mallard has been productive of much amusement. The Rev. Mr. Pointer, having, in his short history of Oxford, rashly hazarded a doubt respecting the true species of this highly-honoured bird, and even gone so far as to insinuate his belief, that it was not a huge drake, but a middling-sized goose, speedily received from Dr. Buckler the punishment due to so heinous an offence. The Doctor's work was entitled, a "*Complete Vindication of the Mallard*" of All Souls from the injurious suggestions of the Rev. Mr.

"Painter." This production, which, for genuine humour and delicate irony, has, it is said, rarely been equalled, drew from Messrs. Bilstone and Rowe Mores a rejoinder, also replete with exquisite humour, entitled, "Proposals for republishing a complete history of the Mallardians," in which was to be given, "a true history of *Pentrapolin a Calamo*, usually styled, by way of eminence, the *Bookler* of the Mallardians."

OUR

Second Day's Walk

will be directed to the Colleges of WORCESTER, ST. JOHN'S, BALLIOL, TRINITY, WADHAM, and MAGDALEN.

Proceeding down the Corn-market, we leave on our right the venerable tower of St. Michael's church, and, a little beyond, turn to the left up George-lane; at the extremity of which another lane, deriving its appellation from the establishment which we are approaching, goes off to the northward, and quickly brings us to the easy and delightful eminence on which stands

WORCESTER COLLEGE,
the youngest daughter, save one, of *Alma Mater*.

The principal buildings of this College are of very recent date, and of modern architecture: the whole, when completed, will form the first example in Oxford of a departure from the old quadrangular arrangement of collegiate edifices. At present only the eastern and northern sides are finished; the southern being still formed by

part of the old buildings of Gloucester Hall^a. On the west, which will continue open, are gardens hanging on a charming slope towards the Isis, and affording a delightful view over the rich plain to the westward of the city.

The eastern range of building is elevated on a terrace, and is a regular elegant pile, two stories in height, with a projecting centre, crowned by a pediment, lighted by three large round-headed windows, and decorated with Ionic pilasters. A lofty piazza is continued along the whole front of this pile, in which are contained the Chapel, the Hall, and the Library.

In the new buildings on the north are contained the Provost's apartments, and chambers for part of the Society. The LIBRARY is of more than ordinary magnitude. Along its whole extent, and both ends, a gallery is carried. Among

^a This was an ancient Academic Hall, originally founded in the year 1283, as a seminary for Benedictine monks of the abbey of St. Peter at Gloucester. When Henry VIII. made Oxford a Bishop's see, Gloucester Hall, which had of course shared the fate of other monastic establishments, was converted into the episcopal residence. In the year 1559, Sir Thomas White, Founder of St. John's College, purchased it, and once more converted it into a place of study, giving it the name of St. John Baptist's Hall; by which name however it but rarely went, being still, according to Wood, in all writings called by its original name.

the books are many valuable works on architecture, particularly a copy of Palladio, formerly belonging to Inigo Jones, with whose manuscript annotations, written in Italian, its pages are plentifully stored. But a far greater curiosity is a religious treatise, sumptuously bound, and ornamented with pearls, said to have been presented by a person on whom its contents had first impressed a serious belief of the truths of Revelation, and who, in acknowledgment of the inestimable benefit, caused it to be thus superbly decorated.

The Library walls are unadorned, except with the portraits of Sir Thomas Cooke, Bart. Founder of the College, and of Dr. Clarke, one of its chief benefactors.

In the year 1701, the former gentleman, whose seat was at Bentley Paucefort, near Bromsgrove, in Worcestershire, devised by will to the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of Oxford, three other Prelates, the Vice-Chancellor, and all Heads of Houses for the time being, the sum of 10,000*l.* in trust, for the endowing of a College, or for adding to some existing establishment such a number of Fellowships and Scholarships as the funds bequeathed might be found adequate to support. A preference in

election was always to be given to scholars from the grammar schools of Bromsgrove or Feckenham, the latter of which had been founded, and the former additionally endowed, by the testator. If no candidates presented themselves from either of these schools, the preference was to devolve upon youth from the free schools of Worcester, Hartlebury, Kidderminster, and other places in the county of Worcester. During a considerable interval which occurred between the date of this liberal bequest, and the decision of the trustees relative to its appropriation, the principal sum accumulated to 15,000*l.* when, at length, the erection of the then deserted Gloucester Hall into a College being resolved on, the premises of that establishment were purchased from St. John's College, to which they belonged. In July, 1714, Queen Anne, in compliance with a petition presented by the trustees, issued her letters patent, sanctioning the proposed measure, and appointing the style of the newly incorporated Society to be *The Provost, Fellows, and Scholars of Worcester College, in the University of Oxford.*

Dr. Clarke, the subject of the other portrait, was a liberal benefactor not only to this College, but also to several others in the University. To the former, he bequeathed his estates at Purton

and Hill Marton, for the founding of six Fellowships of 45*l.* each, and three Scholarships of 25*l.* each, annually.

The HALL, which, like the Chapel, projects eastward from the Library, is a spacious handsome room; part of the western end of which is divided from the entire length by two fluted Corinthian columns of very elegant form and proportions.

The CHAPEL is of equal size^o with the Hall. It is fitted up with singular plainness, boasting of no other ornament than the elegantly figured compartments of its stuccoed roof.

Leaving Worcester College, we now skirt along the northern side of Gloucester Green, and, by a narrow lane, obtaining access into the charmingly retired street of St. Giles, cross over to its eastern side, on which stands

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE.

A terrace before the College affords the best view of its front; the principal feature of which, the gateway tower, although not very elevated, contributes most essentially to the simply majestic appearance of this venerable looking College.

The chief ornaments of the tower are, an oriel window, flanked by two empty canopied niches, and a statue of St. Bernard, placed above the oriel, in a third niche, wrought in a style of higher enrichment. The gate is ornamented with the arms of the Founder.

The appearance of the first quadrangle is on the whole highly respectable, although some of the windows have rather injudiciously been sashed, instead of being allowed to retain their original casements. The buildings which surround this court are embattled: they consist of the Chapel and Hall on the north, of the President's lodgings on the east, and of apartments for the Society on the two remaining sides. On the walls are sculptured the arms of the sees of Canterbury and Winchester, and of Sir William Cordall.

The CHAPEL of this College is the first which we have yet visited, furnished with a *choir*. The organ was constructed by Byfield in the year 1768: it is placed over an elegant screen of the Corinthian order, between the choir and the ante-chapel. The altar, which is likewise of the Corinthian order, is greatly enriched, and is furnished with an altar-piece of tapestry, on which is wrought a representation, copied from one of Titian's pictures, of our Saviour and the two dis-

ciples at Emmaus. In the countenances of the figures, the artist is said to have introduced portraits of the Pope, of the reigning Kings of France and Spain, and of himself.

The eastern window is very fine. It was put up in the reign of James I. and is said to have cost the very great sum of 1500*l*.

Numerous monumental tablets in the chapel and ante-chapel record the names and virtues of sundry benefactors, presidents, and others connected with this important foundation; among which we shall only notice that of Dr. Rawlinson, a liberal benefactor to the University, and particularly to this College; to which, as a mark of affection, he bequeathed his heart^b. This is inclosed in a silver vessel, within a black marble urn, placed against the north wall of the Chapel, and bearing an inscription, with this singular beginning, *Ubi Thesaurus, ibi Cor*.

^b He left the bulk of his estate, of at that time nearly the annual value of 700*l*. to this College, of which he had been a Gentleman Commoner. Dr. Rawlinson was one of the greatest book-collectors of his time. The sale of his library, prints, &c. occupied sixty-eight days. It is a little remarkable, that his brother, a very learned non-juring prelate, was similarly tinctured with the *Bibliomania*. The residence of the latter was in chambers at Gray's Inn, where he so completely filled his four apartments with books, that he was obliged to have his bed moved into the passage. His friends used familiarly to call him Tom Folio.

Adjoining to this Chapel, on the north, is a smaller one, (built in 1662, by Dr. Richard Bayley, the President,) the roof of which is finely wrought in the ancient manner, and decorated with the arms of the ill-fated Archbishop Laud, whose remains, and those of the loyal and intrepid Archbishop Juxon, repose in contiguous vaults beneath the pavement of the principal Chapel.

The next object to which we would direct our stranger's attention is the HALL, an ancient room, and not unworthy of the opulent establishment of which it is an appendage. It was the original refectory of St. Bernard's College^c; is large and well-finished, has a finely arched roof, a neat wainscoting, an ample chimney-piece of variegated marble, and a handsome screen of Portland stone. The walls are decorated with many portraits; between two of which, those of Archbishops Laud and Juxon, hangs a likeness of the Founder, Sir Thomas White, of whom a short account will not, we would hope, be unacceptable.

He was born in the year 1492 at Reading, in Berkshire, and at the early age of twelve was bound apprentice in London. His master, whom

^c See the account of All Souls College, and of the religious foundations in Oxford previously to the dissolution.

he had faithfully served during the space of ten years, dying, left him a hundred pounds, which, added to a slender paternal bequest, enabled him to commence on his own account that business, by the successful prosecution of which he soon acquired considerable wealth. Riches brought in their train the chief civic honours. In 1546 he served the office of Sheriff, and in 1553 was chosen Lord Mayor; for his services in which capacity, during the insurrection of the misguided Sir Thomas Wyatt, the honour of Knighthood was conferred on him by Queen Mary. Sir Thomas White died in the year 1566 at Oxford, and within the walls of the College which his own munificence had founded.

Of many other noble charities of this worthy citizen, the archives of several of our large towns and cities afford ample evidence; but the only instance of his beneficence which it falls within our province to record, is the very signal one to which St. John's College owes its origin.

On the 1st of May, 1555, Sir Thomas, who had fortunately been prevailed on to relinquish a previously formed design of founding his College at Reading^d, obtained from Philip and Mary a li-

^d In Dr. Plot's History of Oxfordshire, a traditionary story is

cence, empowering him to found, by the style of *St. John Baptist College in the University of Oxford*, a College for a President and thirty Scholars, more or less; the members of which were to study divinity, philosophy, and the arts. By the same charter, the site of the new foundation was appointed to be that of St. Bernard's College, which, as we noticed in our account of All Souls, was founded in 1436 by Archbishop Chichele. The Archbishop instituted it as a seminary for scholars of the Cistercian order, in which they might reside in a body, follow their own rules, and be governed by their own peculiar statutes. At the dissolution, its revenues were swept away along with those of other monastic foundations; but the premises were granted to Christ Church, from whence they were conveyed by purchase to Sir Thomas White. For some time the new Society inhabited the original edifices, which had been left standing, and are by Wood said to have resembled those of All Souls. In 1557 another charter was obtained from the same sovereigns;

related of Sir Thomas White's having been "warned in a dream, "that he should build a College near a place where there was a "triple elm growing from one root;" and that after a short search, "he met with something near Gloucester Hall that seemed to "answer his dream, where, accordingly, he erected a great deal "of building: but afterwards finding another elm near St. Bernard's College, more exactly to answer his dream, he left off at "Gloucester Hall, and built St. John Baptist's College."

shortly after which, Sir Thomas gave to his foundation a body of statutes, wherein the Society was fixed to consist of a President, fifty Fellows and Scholars, three Chaplains, three Clerks, and six Choristers.

Thus did a private individual, himself perhaps almost wholly uneducated, and the greater part of whose life had been spent in the painful acquisition of wealth, nobly emulate the example of those illustrious prelates and legislators, to whom the University of Oxford had previously been indebted, and provide, with rarely equalled liberality, for a farther diffusion of the benefits of learning, and the blessings of religion*.

Numerous other portraits adorn the walls of this spacious refectory ; among which may be particularized a full length, by Ramsay, of his present

* Sir Thomas was a member of the Merchant Taylors' Company, under whose auspices has long flourished one of the most respectable of our public classical seminaries, well known by the name of Merchant Taylors' School. A principal motive of Sir Thomas in founding St. John's College was to provide for the advancement of youth educated in this school ; which is therefore annually visited, and the upper form examined, by the President and Fellows of the College, previously to the election for supplying the vacant Fellowships, no fewer than thirty-seven of which must, by the statutes, be reserved for such as have received their education in the said school.

Majesty^f. A painting of St. John the Baptist, by Guercina, which formerly hung over the chimney piece, has been removed to the Library; and a singular representation of St. John, from the celebrated picture of Raphael, stained in *scagliola*, now occupies its place.

From the Hall we proceed to the inner quadrangle, which, although marked by an evident want of uniformity in style, possesses much of that captivating splendour of effect, for which Inigo Jones so generally laboured. Successful, however, as he has been in this instance, his work has been often and loudly arraigned at the bar of architectural criticism. And certainly not without cause; although we do think, that if a mixture of the Grecian style, with that commonly termed Gothic, could in any case be defensible, it would be in this. The contrast produced by an opposition of the extreme plainness of the northern and southern sides, to the almost redundant richness of the eastern and western divisions of the qua-

^f On the 30th of August, 1636, after King Charles I. Queen Henrietta, the Elector Palatine, Prince Rupert, and several of the Nobility, had been entertained at dinner in the Library by Archbishop Laud, Chancellor of the University, a play was represented before them in the Hall, by the students; after which their Majesties proceeded to Christ Church, where they witnessed the representation of another play.

drangle, although not wholly creditable to the judgment of the architect, is eminently gratifying to the eye of the beholder. Pleased we certainly are with the entire result, although it is perhaps in Sterne's way, "without knowing why, or caring wherefore."

The eastern and western sides of the quadrangle correspond in almost every particular. They present a fine elevation of two stories, the upper one of which rests on a light and lofty arcade, composed of round arches springing from airy columns, and is surmounted by an embrasured parapet, of an elevation sufficient to impart greater dignity of appearance than long ranges of building only two stories high usually possess. The windows are of the narrow double pointed kind under square heads; and, in order to relieve the blankness of the intervening space, the architect has judiciously introduced, between them and the parapet, a continuous moulding, charged with a series of sculptured heads. Beneath the tier of windows are knots of foliage and flowers disposed in compartments. Immediately above the columns of the piazza are placed eight busts, intended to represent the four Cardinal virtues, the three Christian graces, and Religion. In the centre of each façade is a magnificent gateway, composed of the three Grecian orders, and enriched with

much decorative sculpture. The Doric order appears in a couple of fluted columns which grace each side of the gateway arch; above these rise couplets of columns of the Ionic order; over which sweeps a semicircular pediment, bearing in its tympanum a rich armorial coat, and surmounted by a crown; lastly, over the portal, beneath a triangular pediment, the Corinthian order is introduced in a couple of Corinthian columns, which serve as supporters to the pediment. Between the two latter, which, as well as the Ionic ones, are fluted, is a niche, containing, on the eastern side of the quadrangle, a bronze statue of Charles I. and, on the western side, one of Henrietta his Queen. Both these were the work of Fanelli, a Florentine artist, and were presented by Archbishop Laud. During the Rebellion they were taken down, and concealed. They possess considerable merit; but a too great bend given to the King's right knee communicates a degree of awkwardness to his Majesty's posture.

The upper story of both the southern and eastern sides of this quadrangle is appropriated to the LIBRARY, which no visitor of St. John's College should omit to inspect. It consists of two spacious and elegant rooms, in which is contained an extensive and valuable collection of works, both printed and MS. Among them are the

books and manuscripts comprised in a valuable donation of Archbishop Laud, at whose expence the eastern division of the Library was constructed; the bookcases in which are richly ornamented, and with much ingenuity so disposed as to form the room into a gallery. Besides its literary treasures, the Library contains several objects of curiosity and interest. Among these are some curious paintings, on copper, of the Apostles, (attributed to Carlo Dolce;) a very fine carved eagle[†], by Snetzler of Oxford; a miniature picture of Charles I. beautifully executed; another of his Queen; a collection of Greek, Roman, and English coins, being part of those formerly belonging to Dr. Rawlinson; some curious missals; and a book of Common Prayer, at the end of which is a manuscript account of the last moments of King James I. At the upper end of the southern division of the Library is a large bay window^h, ornamented with a portrait of the Founder, and, among other coats of arms, those of Sir Thomas himself, and of the Merchant Taylors' Company, of which he was a member. Portraits on canvas of Archbishop Laud, Chief Baron Eyre, &c. constitute additional embellishments of this elegant repository of literature.

[†] This originally belonged to the Chapel.

^h This window is one of a series of handsome bay windows, exhibited by the eastern or garden front of the College.

The portal in the centre of the eastern side of the inner quadrangle leads to the GARDENS, which formerly constituted a very favourite promenade of the Oxonian fashionables. The terrace indeed, the wilderness, the artificial mount, and the alcove, for which, a century ago, they were so noted, are no longer to be seen ; but the skilful hand of Brown has bestowed upon them graces of a far more attractive description. They are of considerable extent, and in an eminent degree combine the picturesque and beautiful.

From St. John's College our route now leads in a southerly direction, along St. Giles's-street, and past the church of St. Mary Magdalen ; leaving which on our right hand, and, a little beyond, making a sharp turn to the left, round a handsome stone edifice belonging to Balliol College, we have before us the whole of Broad-street, in a perspective that is fully and finely terminated by the majestic portico of the Clarendon Printing Office.

A train of interesting recollections is here excited by the affecting consideration, that along the very path which we are now pursuing, the venerable martyrs Ridley, Latimer, and Cranmer, were led from the gloomy dungeon, in which they had been long immured, to the stake erected for them

by the cruel bigotry of Mary. And a little onward, in the middle of the high way before the gate of Balliol College, they sealed their testimony with their blood. The exact spot on which these illustrious fathers of the Reformation suffered, was formerly indicated by a flat stone; but this has been removed some years. Yet surely a spot of so high interest, a spot that will be for ever sacred in the eyes of those who rejoice to find the Church of England restored to the pure and apostolical form in which she existed before the errors of popery obtained admission into her creed, should be consecrated to lasting remembrance, by the erection of an appropriate and durable memorial^h. The front of

BALLIOL COLLEGE

occupies a considerable portion of the northern side of Canditch. Both extremities of the front are modern. These were built at different periods, and unfortunately without any reference to the character and style of the original structure; without regard even to a common line of direction, in any two of the various parts which compose the

^h In the College wall, just opposite to the dismal scene, there is a stone, distinguishable enough by its size, but more distinguished by a tradition, that it was used on the occasion, and derived its colour from the fire lighted for this last sacrifice to superstition.

anomalous front. Even the more ancient part of the structure displays, in its modernized and dissimilar windows, too evident proof of the little attention that has sometimes been paid to keeping up the architectural character of these venerable edifices. Consequently, although, individually considered, the additional piles of building, particularly that on the west, are by no means inelegant, the general appearance of the extensive line of front is too strikingly irregular to be pleasing. The gateway, as is generally the case in the older Colleges, is wrought beneath an embattled tower. The peculiar beauty of this, the most ancient of all our academical towers, at once caught the attention, and soon gained the admiration, of Wyatt, who, if he could not always imitate, could always discern, the genuine graces of Gothic architecture. Whenever he looked up to its antique battlements, he would lament that such a tower should be so placed; so little honoured by new repairs on one side, and so much dishonoured by old ruins on the other; the beauty of which heightens our regret at the want of conformity exhibited in other parts of the edifice. Immediately over the archway, between two empty canopied niches, is placed an oriel window; and in the upper story of the tower, between two narrow windows, is a third niche, also vacant. Over the gate are the arms of the De Balliol family. Want of uniformity is

also a drawback upon the interior appearance of the quadrangle, which, nevertheless, possesses several interesting features. The view of the Hall is pleasingly antique; that of the Chapel displays with fine effect its highly ornamented entrance, and a range of pointed windows; while in the north-western corner of the court, an oriel window, belonging to the Master's lodgings¹, exhibits, in the lightness and delicacy of its stone-work, proof of the exquisite taste and skill of English architects three hundred years ago².

The interior of the HALL has recently been modernized with studied plainness. Excepting in the single instance of the College arms, even heraldic sculpture or painting forms no portion of its ornament; although formerly the Society could not assemble round the table of refection, without being excited to a grateful remembrance of benefactors, whose armorial bearings met the eye in almost every direction³.

A few years ago the talents of the celebrated

¹ Some curious ancient paintings are preserved in these lodgings.

² In this window are the arms of Bishop Grey, one of the chief contributors to the Library.

³ A large tankard, still preserved among the College plate, was once the property of John Kyrle, Pope's celebrated "Man of "Rosa."

Wyatt, whose melancholy and premature death was a source of deep regret to every lover of the arts, were exerted in a renovation of the interior of the College LIBRARY. The style of the alterations is that commonly termed Gothic, and the manner in which they have been executed, shews Wyatt to have been a master of his art. He has in truth made the room a fit casket for the literary treasures of which it is the depository.

Although, in common with those of other Colleges, the Library of Balliol was rifled by the bigotted and tasteless visitors of Edward VI. yet, even in Anthony à Wood's time, it was considered one of the most valuable in the University. Among its stores are some remains of the munificent donation of Grey, Bishop of Ely, who, besides contributing towards the expence of building the Library, bestowed on it an invaluable collection of nearly two hundred manuscripts, (many of them splendidly illuminated,) which he had purchased in this country, and in Italy: many of them have been robbed of their most splendid decorations, in the usual manner, and for the usual purpose, without regret, or even regard for the consequences; but many too have escaped the mischievous effects of such pious, or rather impious, spoliation. The Virgil is fine, and the Tully is magnificent. The windows of this Library are

enriched with the arms of benefactors, brought from the old Library windows.

From this splendid accumulation of the written wisdom of ages, we now turn to the hallowed pile in which lessons are taught of that superior wisdom, which cometh from above.

Although the present CHAPEL, which occupies a part of the northern side of the quadrangle, was built only about three hundred years ago, the College appears to have had a regular place of worship at so early a period as the year 1327. The chief ornaments of the present Chapel are the paintings with which the windows are filled. Those of the side windows, consisting chiefly of representations of different events recorded in Scripture, portraits of saints, &c. possess, in many cases, no inconsiderable degree of merit. One of them in particular, the second from the altar, on the southern side, contains a spirited delineation, by Bernard Van Linge, of King Hezekiah's sickness and recovery. But the merits of the other windows are thrown quite into the shade by the superior excellence of the paintings in the great eastern window, on which are glowingly represented the *Passion, Resurrection, and Ascension of our Blessed Saviour*. This fine window was given by Dr. Stubbs, in 1529; since which time nearly

three centuries have elapsed, without impairing in any very sensible degree the richness and brilliancy of its colouring¹.

In addition to the buildings contained in the quadrangle, of which we have thus taken a brief survey, there are, in an area on the north west, belonging to the College, certain detached edifices, called Cæsar's Lodgings; and at the western extremity of the main front, a structure of considerable magnitude, already slightly noticed, containing a number of convenient apartments. Cæsar's Lodgings derived their appellation from Henry Cæsar, (brother to Sir Julius,) who was of this Society in the reign of Elizabeth, and was afterwards Dean of Ely. The last mentioned structure was built at the expence of Mr. Fisher, late Fellow of Balliol, whose name, with an inscription as singular as it is obscure, appears on a tablet on the northern side;

VERBUM NON AMPLIUS FISHER.

By a literal, but it should seem a mistaken, compliance with the very words which the old gentleman used when he was consulted on the occasion,

¹ The Founder of Wadham College is said to have been very desirous of obtaining this window for his own Chapel, and to have offered for it two hundred pounds.

and which he uttered with a certain impatience, natural enough to such a person at such a time of life, at the mere thought of eulogizing himself, "FISHER . . . verbum non amplius . . . FISHER."

Ere we quit the precincts of this ancient establishment, (for Balliol takes the third, or perhaps the first place, as far as it depends upon the best proofs that there can be of such a matter, priority of authentic document and antiquity of original structure, in order of foundation, among the Oxford Colleges,) we must introduce our tourist to an acquaintance with its noble Founder and Foundress.

John de Balliol (father of the King of Scotland of that name) was one of our most opulent and powerful barons in the reign of Henry III. and one of that monarch's most devoted adherents. He was the fourth in descent from Guy de Balliol, who came into England with William the Norman, and to whom William Rufus made a grant of the forests of Teesdale and Marwood, and of the rich lordships of Middleton and Gainsforth, in the county of Durham. John de Balliol's residence was in the very centre of these large possessions, at Bernard castle, which had been built by his great grandfather Bernard de Balliol. Some time previously to his death, in 1269, John de

Balliol had commenced the maintenance, by Exhibitions at this University, of sixteen poor Scholars. His presumed farther intentions of building and endowing, for their accommodation, a College on the plan of that of Walter de Merton, then recently founded, being frustrated by his death, the task of completing the benevolent purpose devolved upon his relict, the Lady Devorgille, daughter of Alan, Lord of Galloway, in Scotland. This noble lady, whose pious desire of fulfilling the wishes of her deceased husband fortunately met with the concurrence of De Balliol's executors, commenced her labours by purchasing a house in Canditch, on part of the ground now occupied by the College. In this were first placed the sixteen scholars, who, in 1282, received from their benefactress a body of statutes, which are said to bespeak her extreme care to train up the students to habits of economy and order, to excite in them a thirst for knowledge, and to inspire them with pious sentiments, that we venture to incorporate the substance of them into our narrative.

The Scholars were enjoined to be regularly present at the celebration of divine offices on Sundays and the chief holydays; to say a benediction daily before and after meals, and at the same time to pray for the soul of her husband,

and for her procurators ; the latter of whom they were especially directed to obey in all things which the Lady Devorgille had ordered for their good. Thrice a year they were to provide for the saying of solemn masses for the souls of her husband and predecessors, and for her own health and safety, &c. A temperate manner of living was strictly enjoined to the richer Scholars ; and if any of them murmured at the restriction of extravagance, they were to be dismissed, without hope of being restored. Latin was to be the language ordinarily spoken, and disputations of sophisms were to be held weekly, subject to the moderation of the Principal.

In 1284 the Lady Devorgille purchased a tenement, called St. Mary's Hall, which, in contradistinction to the first purchase, called Old Balliol Hall, afterwards received the appellation of New Balliol Hall. With a donation of lands in the county of Northumberland, the benefactions of the Lady Devorgille now terminated ; but although the College was thus founded, and to a certain extent endowed, yet the provision for each Scholar continued during many years exceedingly scanty. The revenues of few Colleges have indeed fluctuated more than those of Balliol ; but happily those times have passed away ; so that now, after all the vicissitudes of fortune, the circumstances

of the Society may already be said to have recovered, and may at no distant period be expected to flourish.

Among the numerous benefactions that have been made in aid of the original endowment, we must be allowed to particularize two. In the year 1666, Dr. John Warner, Bishop of Rochester, gave "part of the profits of his manor of Sway-ton, in Lincolnshire, for the maintenance of four "Scholars of the Scottish nation, to be chosen "from time to time by the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Bishop of Rochester." When they had taken their degree of M. A. they were to return to their native country in "*Holy Orders, "that there may never be wanting in Scotland some "who shall support the ecclesiastical establishment "of England.*" The other donation was by a John Snell, Esq. of Ayrshire, who, dying in Holywell, Oxford, August 6, 1679, bequeathed the manor of Ufton, in Warwickshire, "valued at "450*l.* a year, which, after a certain number of "years, and money expended thence, was to be "applied for the benefit of not more than twelve, "nor under five Scholars; to be chosen from "Glasgow College, from such as had spent three "years there, or two at the least there, and one "or two in some other College in Scotland^m."

^m Chalmers's History of Oxford, p. 52, 53.

In making this bequest, the testator had in view the same object as Bishop Warner, namely, *the support of Episcopacy in Scotland.*

In a History of Glasgow, written by Mr. Denholm, an intelligent Schoolmaster of that city, the two bequests are thus noticed. "The College have also a right, in virtue of a mortification of an estate in Warwickshire, made in 1688, by Mr. Snell, to present ten students to Balliol College, Oxford, after having studied some years at the University of Glasgow. Another foundation of 20*l.* per annum, at the same College, to each of four Scotch students, is also given to the Glasgow exhibitioners; so that four of them have a stipend of 90*l.* per annum, for ten years."

Immediately adjoining, on the west of Balliol, stands

TRINITY COLLEGE,

which has in its southern front an extensive area, ornamentally disposed into a grass-plot and shrubberies, and divided from the street by a neat iron palisade. An elegant wrought iron gate introduces us into the area, across which a broad gravelled avenue leads up to the entrance into the first

quadrangle. Over this entrance rises a tower, which the architect has made to assume the appearance of a steeple belonging to the Chapel, which immediately adjoins the tower on the east, both together constituting the chief front of the College. The Chapel is built quite in the modern style; but its exterior is so classically elegant, that, greatly as we venerate, and decidedly as we prefer, the style erroneously denominated Gothic, we have, we confess, never been able to pass this edifice without stopping to admire it. Its front exhibits a range of well-proportioned windows, with semicircular heads and intermediate pilasters, and is crowned by a light balustrade, on which, at regular distances, urns are placed. A corresponding balustrade enriches the summit of the tower, on the corners of which four statues supply the place of pinnacles. Over the archway in the lower story are the arms of the Founder; on the south side and on the north side those of Dr. Bathurst.

After passing through this archway, the stranger finds himself in a quadrangle of but moderate extent, and, except on the side formed by the Chapel, of no very elegant appearance, but coeval in its original construction with some of the earliest buildings in the University. The present structures that range around it are the Chapel, the Hall, the Library, the apartments of the Presi-

dent, and the line of building which unites the two quadrangles.

The HALL, a fine old room in the English style, is on the western side of the quadrangle. The foundation is very ancient ; but it was repaired or rebuilt in Dr. Kettel's time. A new roof with battlements has since been added to Dr. Kettel's work, and the interior has been also ceiled and wainscotted anew. The screen is of the Doric order, which, as well as the entablature at the upper end, is decorated with the arms of the several benefactors, who contributed to the new improvements. At the upper end of the room hangs one of the four or five portraits of their Founder now in the possession of the Society, all of which are supposed to be copies from a picture by Holbein, in the collection of the Earl of Guildford, at Wroxton. He is portrayed at three quarters' length, habited in a black gown, faced with lucerne spots, a dress also common to all the other portraits of him.

The birth place of this very judicious and liberal Founder was Deddington, a small town within the county, and sixteen miles north of the city of Oxford. His parents, who were of the middle rank of life, and in respectable circumstances, first placed him at the grammar school of

the neighbouring town of Banbury, whence he removed to Eton, and, as it is generally supposed, thence to Gray's Inn, at which he entered himself a student at law. At the early age of twenty-seven he was made Clerk of the Briefs at the Star Chamber; and in 1535, Warden of the Mint. But the office, in which he acquired by far the greater part of his princely fortune, was that of Treasurer of the newly established Court of Augmentations. This, which was at once an honourable and a lucrative appointment, he enjoyed for the space of five years. Of the magnitude of Sir Thomas's fortune some idea may be formed, when we state, that he is said to have possessed "upwards of thirty manors, in the counties of Oxford, Gloucester, Warwick, Bedford, Hereford, and Kent; besides other considerable estates, and several advowsons." And all these riches were accumulated without reproach, unless indeed the mere accumulation be considered in the light of one; for Mr. Warton remarks, "he behaved with such distinguished integrity, that not a single instance occurs upon record to impeach his honour." Sir Thomas, being himself firmly, and on principle, attached to Roman Catholicism, lived during the reign of Edward VI. in retirement. By Queen Mary he was again distinguished, but he had no part in the sanguinary counsels which have tinged the annals of her reign with so

deep a gloom. The Princess Elizabeth was confided to his care ; and, greatly to his honour, he uniformly behaved to his illustrious prisoner with the most respectful deference.

On the 29th of January 1559, about a year after Elizabeth's accession to the throne, Sir Thomas died, (Mr. Warton thinks of a pestilential fever,) at his house in Clerkenwell. His remains were first deposited in the church of St. Stephen, Walbrook, but were afterwards removed, along with those of his second wife, and of his daughter, to the Chapel of his College. Mr. Warton sums up a long and discriminating character of Sir Thomas, in the following words ; " If it be his
" crime to have accumulated riches, let it be re-
" membered, that he consecrated a part of those
" riches, not amid the terrors of a death-bed, nor
" in the dreams of old age, but in the prime of
" life, and the vigour of understanding, to the
" public service of his country ; that he gave them
" to future generations, for the perpetual support
" of literature and religion."

The site chosen by Sir Thomas for his new foundation was that of a monastic establishment, called Durham College^a; the yet standing pre-

^a See our account of the ancient monastic foundations of Oxford, in a subsequent part of the volume.

mises of which he purchased; and, having obtained from Philip and Mary a licence and charter, dated the 8th and 28th of March, 1554-55, founded a College by the title of *Collegium Sanctæ et Individuæ Trinitatis in Universitate Oxon. ex Fundatione Thomæ Pope Militis*, the Society of which consisted of a President^b, a Priest, twelve Fellows, and eight (afterwards increased to twelve) Scholars. About two years afterwards, the endowment, which was very ample, having been completed, and formal possession given to the Society, the Founder gave them a code of statutes, in which, aware of the utility of classical literature, he directed it to form an important branch in the course of study pursued in the College. He also made provision for a teacher of Humanity, who was enjoined to explain critically Cicero, Plautus, Terence, Virgil, Livy, and other Latin authors, and to use every endeavour to inspire his youthful auditors with a taste for the purity and graces of the Latin language. How faithfully and ably the views of Sir Thomas Pope, and of other Founders, whose sound judgment induced them to lay a similar stress on the expediency of introducing youth, during their academical course, to a tho-

^b Attached to the office of President is the Rectory of Garsington, in this county, where the Founder made provision for building a quadrangular edifice, (now no more,) to which in times of pestilence the Scholars might retire and prosecute their studies.

rough acquaintance with ancient literature, have been seconded by the persons in whom the carrying of those views into effect has been vested, will strikingly appear, by a reference to the great number of eminent classical scholars, whose names Oxford inscribes on the rolls of her fame.

The buildings in which the Society was at first placed were, as we have already intimated, those of Durham College; some remains of which may still be observed, amidst all the succeeding alterations, on the eastern and western sides of the first quadrangle; and although low, and perhaps not very convenient, they continued to accommodate the Society during something more than a century; when, namely in 1667, the buildings of the new or garden court were commenced, under the auspices of Dr. Bathurst^c, the President, who had also previously bestowed a thorough repair on his own lodgings.

^c This liberal benefactor died in June, 1704, aged 83. The occasion of his death was singular. While enjoying his favourite, and, since he had become blind, only amusement of walking in his garden, he had the misfortune to break his thigh. For some time he refused to allow the limb to be set, declaring that there was no marrow in the bones of an old man; and when at length he was induced to undergo the operation of reducing the fracture, it was too late to preserve his life.

One of the portraits in the Hall represents this great benefactor to the College, who presided over it during the long period of forty years. Here is also a portrait of Mr. Thomas Warton, painted by Mr. Penrose of New College, who, in this piece, has preserved a very striking likeness of one of the most distinguished ornaments of this College; a man of whom it has been said, by one who never bestowed praise but where he thought it well deserved, and whose judgment rarely erred, "Few men have combined so many qualities of mind; a taste for the sublime and the pathetic, the gay and the humorous, the pursuits of the antiquary and the pleasures of amusement, the labours of research and the play of imagination."

The Hall has been also recently decorated and enlivened by some additional portraits; among which are an original of Archbishop Sheldon, who was a member of this College, presented to the Society by the ingenious Dr. Ford, of Melton Mowbray; a portrait of Mr. Rands, as benefactor to the College; one of Dr. Kettel; another of the Lady Elizabeth, the Founder's third wife; a curious painting on wood; and, very lately, a valuable one of that distinguished Minister, Lord North, who was also a member of this College.

The LIBRARY, which constituted a part of the ancient buildings of Durham College, and is said to have been the first in the University, was appropriated by the religious of that Society to the same use. The first present of books was made by the Founder himself to his new foundation; since which time the liberality of numerous benefactors has rendered the collection both choice and ample. Among the printed volumes is an extensive collection of topographical works. In the Library windows are preserved many curious fragments of old painted glass, some of them very beautiful, particularly in the window at the upper end of the room, in the centre of which is also a tablet of elegant design executed by Flaxman, and consecrated by an affectionate sister to the memory of her beloved brother, Thomas Warton. The Library also contains a portrait of the Founder, a small portrait of Queen Mary on wood, with some other decorations and curiosities.

On the southern side of the quadrangle is the CHAPEL, a truly elegant place of worship, the exterior of which has already been described. Its interior also possesses considerable magnificence; though, alas! the pictorial splendours for which the windows of the former Chapel were so remarkable, that in Aubrey's^d opinion "the ad-

^d Aubrey was of this College.

"mirable Gothic painted glass" was superior even to that of New College, have for ever vanished. These exquisitely "storied windows" were ruthlessly destroyed during the Usurpation, and now the rays of the sun dart with untempered brightness through ample windows of plain glass. The screen, which divides the ante-chapel from that part of the structure in which divine worship is celebrated, is composed of cedar, and adorned with rich and elegant carving by Grinlin Gibbons. Over the screen of the old Chapel was an organ, by which, previously to the surrender of Oxford to the parliamentary troops, the musical part of the service was accompanied. Under the pavement of the present ante-chapel is a vault, in which, according to the inscriptions above, rest the remains of Dr. Bathurst, Mr. Howe, Dr. Dobson, Dr.

c "In August, 1642, the Lord Viscount Say and Sele came (by order of the Parliament) to visit the Colleges, to see what of new popery they could discover in the Chapels. In our Chapel, on the back side of the screen, had been two altars, (of painting well enough for those times, and the colours were admirably fresh and lively.) That on the right hand as you enter the Chapel was dedicated to St. Catherine; that on the left was of the taking our Saviour off from the cross. My Lord Say saw that this was done of old time, and Dr. Kettel told his Lordship, 'Truly, my Lord, we regard them no more than a dirty dish-clout;' so they remained untouched till Harris's time, and then were coloured over with green. The windows of the Chapel were good Gothic painting, in every column a figure; e. g. St. Cuthbert, St. Leonard, St. Oswald. I have forgot the rest. 'Tis pity they should be lost." *Aubrey's MSS.*

Huddesford, and, though last, not least, the learned and accomplished Thomas Warton. The altar piece, which is of the same costly wood as the screen, is decorated with carving executed by the same masterly hand, and additionally ornamented by a piece of coloured needle work, wrought and presented by Miss Althea Fanshawe, of Shiplake Hill, near Henley. The subject of this lady's work is the *Resurrection*, copied from a painting by Messrs. Jervais and Forest, after designs by West, now in the window over the altar of St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle. The fidelity and spirit with which the fair artist has copied the splendid original, render it impossible to view without regret the perceptibly diminishing vividness of the colours. On the ceiling, surrounded by a profusion of elaborate work in stucco, is a painting of the *Ascension*, executed by Peter Berchett, a French artist. In the wall opposite to each end of the altar is a coved recess, in the northern one of which is placed the elegantly constructed monument of the Founder. Upon it lie the effigies of Sir Thomas and of the third Lady Pope, (for Sir Thomas was thrice married,) but much of the beauty of the monument is obscured through its situation in a recess. Among the plate belonging to the altar is a chalice of silver gilt, highly ornamented with antique sculpture. This was purchased by the Founder at the dissolution, from

the suppressed abbey of St. Alban's, the venerable abbey-church of which Sir Thomas is also said to have been the means of saving from that destruction, to which so many fine monastic edifices were doomed.

Although Dr. Aldrich is generally considered to have furnished the original plans of this Chapel, yet Sir Christopher Wren, as appears from his letters, was chiefly consulted on the occasion, and much of the beauty of it is to be ascribed to his taste and skill; and report says, that it was built in imitation of the Duke of Devonshire's domestic chapel at Chatsworth. That uncertainty should attach to so recent a circumstance is, as Mr. Chalmers remarks, rather singular, and leads us to quote on the subject Mr. Warton's own words, in his life of Dr. Bathurst. After observing that it is to the spirited influence and liberality of Dr. B. Trinity College is indebted for so "attic" an edifice, and stating, that, besides expending 2000*l.*† himself on the exterior of the building, the Doctor obtained from many persons of the first rank large contributions towards defraying the expence of the interior, Mr. W. proceeds; "I am inclined to think that Dr. Aldrich, " with some degree of conformity however to the

† Wood says only 1700*l.*

“ suggested pattern, gave the plan, and adjusted the design. This seems the more likely, because the building is entirely in the style of the parish church of All Saints in Oxford, which Dr. Aldrich is known to have designed.”

It now only remains for us to view the buildings of the inner court, and to take a peep at the gardens. The former, which are wholly occupied by the apartments of the Fellows and Students, form only three sides of a square, the fourth being open to the gardens. They were designed by Sir Christopher Wren ; but, unless through the accidental circumstance of being the first instance in the University of the adoption of classic architecture, they are not remarkable for any thing beyond just proportions, and commodiousness of interior arrangement.

The GARDENS are extensive : they are divided into two unequal portions by a fine walk, which, running eastward, is terminated by a handsome gate[†] of wrought iron, opening into the way to the Parks, and surmounted by the Founder's

[†] In sawing asunder one of the large blocks of stone for building the piers of this gate, a living toad is said to have been found embedded in the centre of the mass. Accounts of such phenomena are not unfrequent ; but more complete evidence than has yet been given of their actual occurrence is certainly desirable.

arms. Of these gardens, the northern division is laid out in the airy style of modern landscape gardening, while the southern exhibits in its wilderness, its narrow winding walks, its trim hedges, and its superabundance of formal yew, the fantastic taste of Queen Anne's time.

Emerging from Trinity by the front avenue, and proceeding eastward, we first pass, on our left, an old building belonging to the College, formerly appropriated to the reception of students, by the name of Kettel Hall^b; a name which, as well as something of a collegiate aspect, it still retains. Beyond, on the right, are the Ashmolean Museum, the Theatre, and the Clarendon Printing Office; opposite to the last of which, a street diverging to the north conducts us to

WADHAM COLLEGE,

the front of which, a little retiring from the street, ranges along the eastern side of the way, opposite

^b This, which is now a private dwelling, derived its name from Dr. Ralph Kettel, by whom it was built, and who was President of the College during the long period of 44 years. His death, a principal cause of which is supposed to have been grief at the devastations committed, and the changes introduced, by the fanatics of the civil war, aggravated too by personal insults, took place in the year 1643. Many interesting particulars concerning the Doctor are contained in "Letters from the Bodleian Library," recently published.

to the gardens of the College that we have just quitted. This front is of a simple but very pleasing character. Over a gateway in the centre rises a tower of moderate height, and a bay projection, which, crowned by a pediment, forms the termination of each lateral range, gives a neat finish, and a compactness to the whole façade. On the south, adjoining to the College, but with its front advanced to the street, is a good stone building of three stories, erected in 1694, as an additional accommodation for the members of the Society. The addition of a corresponding edifice on the north was meditated, and a view of it engraven for the Oxford Almanack; but the design, for a time at least, was subsequently relinquished.

The spacious quadrangle, into which the gateway immediately leads, is particularly distinguished by the neatness and uniformity of its buildings, which yet remain exactly as they were originally constructed. Their style is that of most of the older Colleges of Oxford, and, like some others, they also exhibit one of those glaring violations of architectural consistency, which, for the sake of effect, the architects of that day¹

¹ Who the architect of this College was, is not quite certain; but he is thought to have been one Thomas Holt, of York, who was also architect of the Public Schools, the tower of which displays on its inner face a similar departure from the principle of correct taste.

often hazarded. In the centre of the eastern side of the quadrangle is introduced a portico, fantastically decorated with columns and pilasters of the classic orders. Besides these ornaments, so much misplaced, the portico exhibits statues of King James I. and of Nicholas and Dorothy Wadham, the Founder and Foundress of the College. Between Wadham (who is represented in armour, with a model of the College in his hand) and his Lady is placed a tablet, with a Latin inscription, recording the date of the foundation, and various other particulars concerning it.

The buildings on three sides of the quadrangle comprise chambers for the Society, and apartments for the Warden; on the eastern side are the Hall, and part of the Chapel.

Few Colleges can boast of a refectory superior either in point of size or of embellishment to the HALL of Wadham. Twenty portraits decorate its walls; besides which, two, on glass, representing King Charles I. and his Queen Henrietta, are contained in a noble window at the upper end of the room. Among the paintings on canvas, those of chief interest are likenesses of the Founder and Foundress. The former, Nicholas Wadham, was a scion of the ancient Devonshire family of Wadhams, but was himself a gentleman of So-

mersetshire, being styled of Edge and Mettrifield, or, as Fuller writes it, Myrefield. Of his personal history little has been gathered, even by the persevering industry of Wood, by whom he is said to have been admitted a Gentleman Commoner of either Christ Church or Corpus Christi, about the year 1548. With a laudable, and in those days happily not uncommon, spirit of liberality, determining to appropriate a portion of his wealth to some useful public work, he is said to have first projected the establishment, at Venice, of a College for the benefit of his Roman Catholic countrymen. From this design, however, he was fortunately diverted by a friend, and induced to make choice of Oxford, as the depository of his bounty. But it was not permitted Wadham himself to carry his benevolent purpose into execution. Just as he had matured his plan, he died; and had not his lady (who was herself the daughter of one of Rhedycina's more distinguished benefactors*) been possessed of a congenial spirit, Oxford might have wanted this fair jewel in her crown of Colleges. With the aid of trustees, this excellent lady was enabled, during nine years that she survived her husband, completely to fulfil his liberal and judicious intentions. She purchased from the magistracy of Oxford, for 600*l.* a plot of ground, on

* Sir William Petre.

which a famous Augustinian priory had formerly stood; and, the site having previously been cleared from the fragments of ruin by which it was encumbered, caused the foundation stone of the College to be laid, with much ceremony, on the 31st of July, 1610. By the royal licence, which Mrs. Wadham obtained on the 20th of December, 1611, she was empowered to found, for the usual academical studies, a College, the Society of which was to consist of a Warden, sixteen Fellows, and thirty Scholars, graduate or non-graduate, more or less, as the statutes might prescribe. By these statutes, which, in the following year, were confirmed by the legislature, the Society was settled to consist of a Warden, fifteen Fellows, fifteen Scholars, two Chaplains, and two Clerks.

In about three years the buildings were completed, at the expence, plate and kitchen requisites included, of 11,360*l*. the whole of which was defrayed by the Foundress.

Another interesting portrait in the Hall is that of the learned and ingenious, though perhaps somewhat too speculative, Bishop Wilkins, Warden of the College during the Usurpation; whose name, and that of the establishment over which he presided, will be for ever associated with that

of the Royal Society. This distinguished scientific body originated here. The meetings of its first members were held, according to Bishop Sprat, in an upper room over the gateway, during six or seven years that preceded the removal, in 1659, of Dr. Wilkins to the Headship of Trinity College, Cambridge. The Doctor, who seems to have taken a very active part in the establishment of the Society, had for his coadjutors, (according to the before-mentioned Bishop Sprat, one of its first members,) Sir Christopher Wren and Sir Henry Petty; Drs. Wallis, Goddard, and Bathurst; and Messrs. Boyle, M. Wren, and Rooke. Thus small were the beginnings of a Society, which afterwards boasted of having, at the same time, a Newton for its President, a Halley for its Secretary, and many of the first literary and scientific characters in Europe, with several royal personages, among its ordinary members. Even after the Society was fixed at Gresham College, under Lord Brouncker, the first President, a branch, the records of which are still preserved in the Ashmolean Museum, remained at Oxford.

The only remaining portrait in the Hall at which we shall pause is a fine one, by Hoppner, of Dr. Wills, late Warden of the College, who, at his death in 1806, bequeathed to this foundation, and to other establishments connected with the

University, nearly the whole of a very ample fortune. The Doctor's bequests were so liberal in themselves, and so judiciously apportioned, that we cannot refuse ourselves the satisfaction of enumerating them here. In augmentation of the Warden's salary, Dr. Wills left 400*l.* per annum; to improve the Warden's lodgings, 1000*l.*; to two Fellows, students or practitioners in law or medicine, two Exhibitions of 100*l.* each; to two Scholars, students in the same faculties, two Exhibitions of 20*l.* each; to a Divinity-Lecturer in the College, to read lectures on the Thirty-nine Articles, 20*l.* per annum; to one superannuated Fellow, 75*l.* per annum¹; to another superannuated Fellow, 50*l.* per annum; to a preacher for four sermons yearly in the Chapel, 11*l.* 10*s.*; to the best reader of lessons in the Chapel, books to the value yearly of 5*l.* or 6*l.*; to the Vice-Chancellor for the time being, interest of money arising from the sale of an estate in Lincolnshire; to the Bodleian Librarian 2000*l.*; to the Theatre and the Clarendon Press, 2000*l.* jointly; to the Infirmary, 1000*l.* three per cents; as a fund, to accumulate for the purchase of livings for the College, the residue of his fortune, after the payment of some legacies to very distant relations, &c.

¹ By a singular and somewhat cruel clause in the statutes, the Fellows of this College are obliged to vacate their Fellowships at the end of eighteen years from the expiration of their regency.

From the Hall we shall conduct our tourist to the LIBRARY, a large and elegant room, which, projecting eastward from the south-eastern corner of the quadrangle, forms the southern side of a second or garden court; of which the Chapel, and the eastern side of the square, are the remaining sides.

The shelves of this Library are well stored with books; among which are those composing the collection of the late Dr. Bisse, Archdeacon of Taunton, consisting of 2000 volumes, valued, according to Wood, at 1700*l*; numerous specimens of early typography; and, among other books contained in a valuable bequest of Mr. Richard Warner, that gentleman's well known Shakespearian collection, comprising every edition of Shakespeare's works, and every piece in illustration of those works which the collector could possibly procure.

At the eastern extremity of the room is a large window, which, contrasted with the narrow pointed ones on each side, makes a very handsome appearance. It is likewise pointed, and is ornamented with two small portraits of Wadham and his lady.

The CHAPEL is a large, well-proportioned, and

very handsome edifice, with an ante-chapel of yet more extended dimensions; and which, contrary to usual custom, is set at a right angle with the choir. The paintings with which the lateral windows of this Chapel are furnished rarely obtain the notice which they really deserve, their merits being eclipsed by the superior beauty of the great eastern window, in which is glowingly represented the history of our blessed Redeemer, in types and their accomplishments. The artist, by whom the paintings in this fine window were executed, was Bernard Van Linge, to whom also are attributed the paintings in the southern range of windows, the lower compartments of which, as well as the corresponding divisions in the northern range, are filled with figures of prophets, apostles, &c. Over the altar is a singular, and perhaps unique performance, by Isaac Fuller, usually denominated a *painting on cloth*, and said to have been executed thus. In a spirit not much unlike that of the painter, who, throwing aside the brush, undertook to paint first with his fingers, and next with his toes, Fuller took for his medium cloth of an ash colour, wrought in his shades with a brown crayon, threw in his lights and heightening with a white one, and then pressed the dry colours with a hot iron, which, by causing an exsudation from the cloth, fixed in the colours so firmly, as to render them proof against even the rudest touch. The subject

of this singular piece is the Lord's Supper, with Abraham and Melchisedeck in a compartment on the northern, and the Children of Israel gathering manna on the southern side of the main design. That time has impaired the distinctness of the figures in this performance, will scarcely be a subject of regret to him who calls to mind the perfection to which the British school of painters have now brought every legitimate branch of their noble and fascinating art.

The floor of the Chapel is paved with black and white marble. Its walls exhibit a monument to the memory of Sir John Portman, and no other; but around the walls of the ante-chapel, a mournful series of speaking marbles records the talents and virtues of many departed worthies, whom this College with pride enumerates among her most distinguished members.

In the COMMON ROOM is a portrait of Bishop Wilkins, and another, painted and presented by Sonman, of a female servant belonging to the establishment, who attained to the wonderful age of one hundred and twenty years.

From a situation in the GARDEN, a little to the south-east of the Library, a strikingly picturesque view may be obtained of the eastern aspect of the

College, the prominent features of which are the fine eastern window of the Library, part of the Hall, the ante-chapel, with its munnioned windows headed with tracery, and its ornamental niches, and lastly, the Chapel itself, the exterior of which is a chaste and pleasing specimen of the English style. Five large and handsome pointed windows, with a buttress between each, range along its northern and southern fronts; while a still larger one of the same description nearly fills up the eastern end, from the angles of which buttresses of considerable depth project diagonally, and are carried up into lofty pinnacles enriched with crockets.

The gardens themselves are extensive, and, being laid out in the modern way, constitute an elegant and highly agreeable appendage to the College.

Pass we now with our stranger along Holywell, and down the Long Walk, to the south-eastern extremity of High Street, where, on a delightful spot of ground, gently rising from the banks of the winding Cherwell, stands

MAGDALEN COLLEGE,

one of the most extensive and most opulent foun-

dations in the University, and the last which we purpose visiting in our second day's tour.

The entrance from the city is by a modern gateway of the Doric order, ornamented by a statue of the Founder, but in other respects little worthy of the College to which it belongs. The court into which it immediately leads, although confined in its dimensions, and irregular in its form, is replete with objects to interest and gratify the curious visitor, especially if he possess a taste for antiquities, in which Magdalen College peculiarly abounds. On the north is part of the President's lodgings^a; on the east a noble gateway tower, and the venerable western front of the Chapel, present themselves; and on the south is a low embattled range of building, occupied as chambers by a part of the Society. The front of the Chapel naturally claims to be first examined. Although somewhat injured by a heavy octagonal turret at its north-western angle, this front presents an elevation of much beauty, in the English style, composed of a central and two lateral divisions, separated by buttresses. The former exhibits a highly enriched entrance porch, with a

^a In these lodgings is preserved a picture of Cardinal Wolsey, thought to be an original, who was once a Fellow of the College.

large and handsome pointed window above it. Each of the latter presents an elegant pointed window of inferior size. Beneath the parapet, which is embattled, a moulding is carried, thickly set with grotesquely carved heads, with which many other parts of the College are also lavishly adorned. Into the battlement of the porch are wrought five small canopied niches, each of which is filled by a sculptured figure, of exquisite workmanship for the age that produced it. The first figure on the left hand represents St. John the Baptist; the remaining ones, King Henry III. kneeling, St. Mary Magdalen, William of Wykeham, and the Founder, also kneeling.

Beneath the gateway tower mentioned before was originally the entrance into the great quadrangle, now long disused. The tower itself constitutes a principal ornament of the court, and strikingly exemplifies the magnificent spirit and fine taste of the venerable prelate under whose auspices it arose. Trees and shrubs of luxuriant growth conceal much of the lower part, and but just allow a glimpse of the finely pannelled gate which closes the portal in the inferior story. Above the gate is a superb oriel window, embattled, and very lofty, belonging to a room called the Founder's chamber. On each side of this window are richly canopied niches, containing statues of the Founder,

Henry III. St. John the Baptist, and St. Mary Magdalen. An embrasured parapet and lofty crocketed pinnacles adorn the summit of the tower, to which additional strength and beauty are given by double buttresses at the angles.

In the south-eastern corner of the court still remains an old stone pulpit, from which a sermon, now preached in the Chapel, used to be annually delivered on the festival of St. John the Baptist. On this occasion the court was strewed with grass and rushes; branches of trees were also fixed upon the walls of the surrounding buildings, about the pulpit, and among the seats and benches placed within the area for the accommodation of the chief members of the University, all of whom regularly attended the sermon.

The principal quadrangle, to which we obtain admission through a passage in the western side of the first court, is very spacious. It contains the Chapel, the remaining exterior of which is in the same style as the part already described, the Hall, the Library, the remaining portion of the President's lodgings, and apartments for the Fellows and Demies. Around the whole quadrangle a venerable cloister extends, adding an almost chilling solemnity to the general grandeur of the scene.

About twenty-three years after the Founder's death, a series of hieroglyphical sculptures was placed around the interior of this cloister, where they still remain ; constituting an object of much attraction to strangers and casual visitors. Relative to the import of these hieroglyphics, which were originally coloured, conjecture has frequently busied itself ; but at length, a pretty general acquiescence seems to have taken place in the solution contained in a Latin MS. entitled *Œdipus Magdalenensis*, now in the College Library. The tract was written about the end of the 17th century, at the request of Dr. Clarke, the President, by one of the Fellows named William Reeks ; and as the writer unquestionably displays much ingenuity in his attempt to develope the hidden meaning of the hieroglyphics in question, we shall make no apology for presenting our readers with a translated extract from his manuscript.

“ Beginning from the south-west corner, the two
“ first figures we meet with are the *Lion* and the
“ *Pelican*. The former of these is the emblem of
“ *Courage* and *Vigilance* ; the latter, of *paternal*
“ *Tenderness* and *Affection*. Both of them together
“ express to us the complete character of a good
“ governor of a College. Accordingly they are
“ placed under the window of those lodgings
“ which belong to the President, as the instructions

“ they convey ought particularly to regulate his
“ conduct.

“ Going on to the right hand, on the other
“ side of the gateway, are four figures, viz. the
“ *Schoolmaster*, the *Lawyer*, the *Physician*, and
“ the *Divine*. These are ranged along the out-
“ side of the Library, and represent the duties
“ and business of the students of the house. By
“ means of learning in general, they are to be
“ introduced to one of the three learned profes-
“ sions ; or else, as hinted to us by the figure with
“ *Cap and Bells* in the corner, they must turn out
“ *Fools* in the end.

“ We come now to the north side of the qua-
“ drangle ; and here the three first figures repre-
“ sent the history of *David*, his conquest over the
“ *Lion* and *Goliath* ; from whence we are taught,
“ not to be discouraged at any difficulties that
“ may stand in our way, as the *Vigour of Youth*
“ will easily enable us to surmount them. The
“ next figure to these is the *Hippopotamos*, or
“ *River-Horse*, carrying his young one upon his
“ shoulders. This is the emblem of a good tutor,
“ or Fellow of a College, who is set to watch over
“ the youth of the society, and by whose pru-
“ dence they are to be led through the dangers
“ of their first entrance into the world. The

“figure immediately following represents *Sobriety*
 “or *Temperance*, that most necessary virtue of a
 “collegiate life. The whole remaining train of
 “figures are the vices we are instructed to avoid.
 “Those next to *Temperance* are the opposite
 “vices of *Gluttony* and *Drunkenness*. Then fol-
 “low the *Lucanthropos*, the *Hyæna*, and *Panther*,
 “representing *Violence*, *Fraud*, and *Treachery* ;
 “the *Griffin* representing *Covetousness*, and the
 “next figure, *Anger* or *Moroseness*. The *Dog*,
 “the *Dragon*, the *Deer*, *Flattery*, *Envy*, and *Ti-*
 “*midity* ; and the three last, the *Mantichora*, the
 “*Boxers*, and the *Lamia*, *Pride*, *Contention*, and
 “*Lust*.

“We have here, therefore, a complete and in-
 “structive lesson for the use of a society dedi-
 “cated to the advancement of religion and learn-
 “ing ; and, on this plan, we may suppose the
 “Founder of *Magdalen* speaking, by means of
 “these figures, to the students of his *College*.”

The *HALL*, which we enter from the south-east-
 ern corner of the quadrangle, is an extensive and
 elegant room, adorned with many portraits, and
 decorated with much fanciful carving. In its
 windows are various coats of arms, and sundry
 honorary inscriptions, commemorative of the
 Founder, and of other persons of eminence con-

nected with the College. These were chiefly brought from the windows of the chamber mentioned in our account of the old gateway tower. Among the portraits are whole lengths of the Founder, Prince Rupert, Henry Prince of Wales, Archbishop Boulter, Doctor Butler, and Mr. Freman; with half lengths of Bishops Warner, Hough, and Wilcocks; of Dr. Hammond; and of Addison. Of the first of these a short account can scarcely be unacceptable.

William Patten, surnamed, from the place of his birth, (according to the general practice of the superior clergy and great men of these days,) Waynflete, was the eldest son of Richard Patten or Patin, Esq. the representative of an ancient family in the county of Lincoln. After receiving preliminary instruction at Winchester, he came to Oxford, and, although his name does not appear in the list of Fellows, became, Dr. Milner thinks, a student of New College. Others however, among whom is Dr. Chandler, have been inclined to fix upon Merton College, where he is also placed by Hollingshed, as the scene of Waynflete's academic studies. In these studies Waynflete's proficiency was very great, as may be inferred from his being chosen at a comparatively early age Head Master of Wykeham's celebrated Winton School, where he collected an unusually

valuable classical library, and acquired great reputation as an instructor. So widely extended indeed was his fame in the latter capacity, that, in 1440, he was earnestly solicited by King Henry VI. to remove along with some of his Scholars^b to that monarch's newly-founded College at Eton. Waynflete consented, and three years afterwards was appointed Provost of that establishment; an office which he retained till the year 1447, in which he was advanced to the Bishopric of Winchester. His talents for public business, which were of a very superior order, being seconded by great political sagacity, now rendered him a truly valuable counsellor to his royal master. And Henry appears to have been fully sensible of his value. He entrusted him with several important commissions, and at length, in 1456, bestowed upon him the dignified appointment of Lord High Chancellor. This office Waynflete retained four years, and then resigned it. Both during his Chancellorship, and previously, he had uniformly shewn himself a diligent and faithful, as well as upright and able servant of the government. Neither did his loyalty to his sovereign partake of the unstable character of that of too many public men, at this unfortunate period of English history. The declining fortunes of his royal master had

^b He carried with him five Fellows and thirty-five Scholars.

not the effect of weakening the attachment or abating the zeal of the grateful servant; and when at length the cloud, which had long impended, burst over the unfortunate monarch with resistless force, when the fatal defeat at Northampton had thrown Henry, a captive, into the hands of his ambitious rival, Waynflete, by whom the King had been attended to Northampton, strove not to catch from the ascending star of York a beam of favour, but, bidding adieu for ever to public life, retired to his diocese; where he employed the remaining years of a life extended far beyond the usual term of human existence, in providing for the wants, both temporal and spiritual, of those around him, and in maturing plans for securing the benefits of learning to his country's children in succeeding ages. After presiding over the diocese of Winchester during the lengthened period of thirty-nine years, he died August 11, 1486, and was interred in a sepulchral chapel within the cathedral of that city. In this chapel, which, through the pious and grateful care of the Society of Magdalen College to keep it in perfect repair, is considered the most beautiful in the whole cathedral, is Waynflete's monument; on which appears a figure of the Bishop, in full pontificals, reclined, and holding within his hands the figure of a heart, which, in allusion to the Psalmist's expression, "My soul is always in my hand," he is re-

presented emblematically offering up to the Almighty.

So early as the second year of his episcopate, Waynflete obtained from Henry VI. a licence to found, and to endow with 100*l.* per annum, a HALL, for a President and Scholars; which was accordingly done on land that belonged to St. John the Baptist's Hospital, within the east gate; and was partly occupied by Bostar, Hare, Pencrych, and Nightingale Halls, and partly lying waste. This foundation was dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen; but as a HALL it was not destined long to exist. Its members, consisting of a President, thirteen Master Fellows, and seven Bachelor Fellows or Scholars, were, however, settled in it in the month of August, 1448.

Shortly afterwards, the Bishop obtained permission to convert the whole extensive premises belonging to the before-mentioned Hospital of St. John, and lying at the eastern extremity of Oxford, into a College; in consequence of which the fraternity of Hospitallers surrendered their entire possessions to the Society of Magdalen Hall; by which Society they were to be supported during the remainder of their lives. This surrender having taken place, Waynflete, on the 12th of June, 1458, placed in his new

College a President, three Master Fellows, and three Bachelor Fellows. These, two days afterwards, were joined by the President and Fellows of the Hall, who had previously made a surrender of their own house to the College. In this manner was Magdalen College completely established; and in May, 1473, the new buildings, the architect of which was William Orchyarde, were commenced under the direction of the Founder himself, who lived to see them nearly completed. By the statutes, given by the Founder in the year 1479, the College was to consist of forty Fellows, thirty Scholars, called *Semi-communarii* or Demies, four Chaplains, Priests, eight Clerks, and sixteen Choristers; and was to be called *Seinte Marie Magdalene College*, to the honour and praise of Christ crucified, the blessed Virgin, St. Mary Magdalen, St. John Baptist, St. Peter and St. Paul, St. Swithine, and other patrons of the cathedral of Winchester.

Besides the paintings already mentioned, there is in the Hall a full-length of St. Mary Magdalen, charmingly executed, as is supposed, by Guercino. Here is also a carving of King Henry VIII.

Being by its statutes obliged to entertain the Kings of England and their eldest Sons, when they visit the University, Magdalen College has not un-

frequently been favoured with royal visits^c; on which occasions entertainments were generally given, and disputations performed, in the Hall. But into any particulars of these our limits not permitting us to enter, we shall proceed to the

LIBRARY, which, although an extensive room, is not well proportioned, and, except in its literary stores, affords but little to detain the tourist. We may indeed remark, *en passant*, that it contains portraits of Waynflete and of Bishop Warner, to the former of whom it was indebted for a donation of eighty volumes, and to the latter for books and ornamental work to about the estimated amount of 1400*l*. Besides these, other benefactors have contributed to increase the collection.

^c The stand this College made against James II. in 1687 will be ever memorable, when the ill-advised monarch took Oxford in his way to Bath, for the purpose of compelling the Society to choose for their President Dr. Parker, then Bishop of the diocese. To detail the proceedings of his Majesty, and of the Society, throughout the whole of this trying affair, would not consist with our limits; we must therefore content ourselves with referring the reader to the second volume of *Oxoniana*, in which he will find a pretty full account of the whole transaction; an account, from the perusal of which it is impossible to rise, without feeling equal respect for the firmness with which the Society adhered to the obligation imposed on them by their statutes, and admiration at their dutious and respectful behaviour to a Sovereign, who so unadvisedly endeavoured to force them to break through that obligation.

The CHAPEL of this College is deservedly ranked among the finest in the University. Of its exterior we have already given some description; its interior, although, from the altar piece and the screen being Corinthian, it exhibits an injudicious mixture of the English and Grecian styles, still retains much of its pristine character. But of the magnificent furniture which the pious munificence of Waynflete had bestowed, it was, alas! at the Reformation almost wholly despoiled. Strange, that a period at which the light of the Gospel, after an interval of many centuries of partial obscurity, once more shone forth upon us in unclouded lustre, should have also been marked by the rise of a barbarous and fanatical spirit, which, accounting the exquisite works of art, wherewith the piety and liberality of our ancestors had adorned the temples of the Most High, only as so many reliques of superstition, would gladly have involved them in one common and total destruction!

Among the principal alterations which the Chapel has received, were those effected in the year 1635, when it was newly stalled, wainscotted, paved with black and white marble, furnished with a new organ, a screen, and new painted windows. Some of the last mentioned were destroyed not long after by the Parliament soldiers, who, in

the true spirit of fanatical Vandalism, laid the windows flat on the ground, and then, by jumping on them, reduced them to shivers.

In the year 1740, a screen and pannelling, both Grecian, the latter of which conceals the formerly beautiful eastern wall, were put up. In 1793, a new roof, by Wyatt, after the antique, was erected.

Each side of the choir exhibits a range of windows, five in number, filled with representations, in *claro obscuro*, of the Apostles, Fathers, Saints, &c. Of these, eight were removed from the antechapel, in the year 1741, and two new ones, one on each side next to the altar, added by Price junior. In the great western window is a representation, also in *claro obscuro*, of the *Last Judgment*, executed after a design of Christopher Schwartz. This was restored in 1794, by Eginton, from the damaged state in which it had lain ever since the high wind in 1703. Of the two paintings over the altar, the upper one was executed by Fuller; and that beneath it, as is generally allowed, by Moralez, a Spanish artist of great celebrity during the sixteenth century, and usually styled, by way of eminence, *El Divino*. To the former of these, which represents the last judgment, the general opinion seems to have been more unfavourable than is consistent with strict

justice; the latter has obtained its due meed of praise, and is well known through the medium of Sherwin's fine engraving. It is a representation of Christ bearing the cross, and was brought from Vigo by the last Duke of Ormond. It was presented to the College by Mr. William Freman, of Hamels in Hertfordshire. To this gentleman the College is also in part indebted for the fine toned organ^d, on which, twice every day, namely, at ten, and between three and four o'clock^e, the choral service of the Chapel is accompanied.

The ante-chapel is lighted by eight windows, containing finely executed portraits of St. John the Baptist, St. Mary Magdalen, Kings Henry III. and VI. Bishops Wykeham, Waynflete, and Fox, and Cardinal Wolsey. In addition to these, the ante-chapel windows also contain representations of our Saviour's Baptism, and of the Adoration at the Sepulchre; besides numerous coats

^d The former organ was taken down, during the Usurpation, as an engine of superstition; and, by Cromwell's order, for his own amusement, set up in the great gallery at Hampton Court. At the Restoration it was replaced in the Chapel, where it remained, till superseded by the present instrument; on which it migrated to the church of Tewkesbury, in Gloucestershire, where it is said still to remain. Mr. Freman also contributed to the music of the College steeple, by a present of two additional bells to the former peal of eight.

^e On Sundays and Holydays, however, morning service begins at eight o'clock.

of arms, and other ornamental appendages. The two fine columns which support the roof of the ante-chapel will scarcely escape the notice of even the most careless observer; besides which, the room possesses another source, a melancholy source, of attraction, in its numerous monuments. Of these many are well sculptured; but our limits will permit us to particularize only one^f, by Stone, to the memory of two sons of the brave and loyal Sir Thomas Lyttelton. These young gentlemen, both of whom were students of this College, were bathing in the river Cherwell: one of them was in danger of drowning, and cried out; the other flew to save him, but perished with him in the attempt.

Returning into the great quadrangle, we find, on its northern side, a passage leading into a court, at the opposite extremity of which stands the pile called the New Building. This forms one side of an intended new quadrangle, in completion of which (and who that venerates antiquity will hear it without a sigh!) the demolition of three sides of the fine old cloistered quadrangle, is said to have been contemplated. Towards this design a build-

^f For this tomb, Stone, who was an artist of high repute in those days, received 30*l*. The frightful porch by which the beautiful southern front of St. Mary's church is so lamentably disfigured, was also the work of Stone.

ing fund is understood to have been long accumulating; but we venture to hope that it will find another destination: as Mr. Chalmers justly remarks, "the opening to the east and west present "picturesque scenes of such striking beauty, that "taste at least will be amply gratified by finishing the ends of the present new building, and "taking down the north side of the old quadrangle." The pile of new building here referred to extends to the length of three hundred feet, forming a handsome elevation of three stories. The front rests upon a piazza, the roof of which is tastefully wrought in stucco. The rooms, which are disposed in three lofty ranges, are nearly uniform in size, and are appropriated almost wholly to the accommodation of the Fellows.

The only other buildings attached to the College that yet remain to be noticed consist of some rooms on the east of the Hall, and of what is termed the Chaplain's court^h, on the southern side of which stands the noble Tower, that forms so conspicuously beautiful an object on en-

^s History of the Colleges and Halls, p. 209.

^h On the fifth of August, 1719, a fire broke out in the Demies' Common-Room, in this part of the College. It was discovered about two in the morning, and was fortunately got under without doing any farther damage than burning the compass of a room in three stories.

tering Oxford by the London road, and so greatly ennoble every distant prospect of the city. For a union of real solidity with great lightness of appearance, this structure yields to few of the many elegant towers, erected by English architects, previously to the commencement of the sixteenth century. It is divided into four stories; in each side of the lower three of which is a pleasingly simple pointed window. In each face of the upper story are two lofty windows of more elaborate workmanship. Above these the Tower displays much ornamental sculpture, and is crowned by an open wrought battlement. From the angles of the Tower project slender turrets of an octagonal form, which, being carried up a considerable height above the parapet, terminate in richly crocketed pinnacles, between each of which is inserted another pinnacle of equal height, but of more delicate proportions. Tradition ascribes the erection of this fine Tower to Cardinal Wolsey, who, in his 23d year, was Bursar of the College¹.

¹ At the hour of five on the morning of May-day, the choristers of the College assemble on the top of this tower, and sing the following Hymn :

Hymnus Eucharisticus Deo Tri-uni.

Te Deum Patrum colimus,
Te lauditis prosequimur,
Qui Corpus cibo reficis,
Cœlesti mentem gratia.

The PLEASURE-GROUNDS belonging to Magdalen College constitute one of its most agreeable appendages. They acquire also a peculiar interest from the feelings with which, as we wander among their shady recesses, we call to memory the names of many illustrious persons, who, while the genius, the talents, and the virtues, which, when matured, did equal honour to themselves and to the place of their education, were receiving early culture, breathed the same air, and sought the same tranquil retirement. Here Addison strayed, while

Te adoramus, O Jesu !
 Te, Fili unigenite !
 Tu, qui non dedignatus es
 Subire claustra Virginis,

Actus in crucem factus es
 Irato Deo victima ;
 Per Te, Salvator unice,
 Vitæ spes nobis rediit.

Tibi, Æterne Spiritus,
 Cujus afflatu peperit
 Infantem Deum Maria,
 Æternum benedicimus !

Tri-une Deus, hominum
 Salutis Autor optime,
 Immensum hoc Mysterium
 Ovanti lingua canimus.

This is done in lieu of a requiem, which, before the Reformation, was performed in the same place for the soul of Henry VII. The rectory of Slimbridge, in Gloucestershire, is charged with an annual payment of ten pounds for the performance of this service.

musings on the stern virtues and misfortunes of his Cato; here Collins wooed the ardent and mystic Muse, whose brightest smiles were ultimately his; and hither Horne retired to meditate on heavenly themes.

The PADDOCK or GROVE lies chiefly on the north-west of the College. It is pretty closely planted with noble elm trees, and stocked with a considerable number of deer.

The MEADOW, insulated by streams of the Cherwell, lies to the eastward of the Paddock. Around it, on the river's bank, is carried the umbrageous and pleasingly varied walk, so well known by the name of *Magdalen College Water-Walks*.

Many points of this walk afford rich and beautiful views of the surrounding country. At its entrance stood, till the year 1789, a venerable oak of immense size, supposed to have vegetated there nearly six hundred years. On the 29th of June in that year it fell to the ground with a tremendous crash. Its height was 71 feet, its girth 21, and its cubic contents were 754 feet. A chair made from some of the timber is preserved in the President's lodgings.

Third Day's Walk.

COMMENCING from the usual point our *Third Day's Walk*, in which we propose visiting HERTFORD, ORIEL, UNIVERSITY, QUEEN'S, and NEW COLLEGES, we first direct our steps along High Street, and, passing St. Mary's Church, turn to the left immediately beyond it, continuing to walk in a northerly direction, till we arrive at

HERTFORD COLLEGE,

which received the name of a College in the year 1740, when King George II. granted a charter of incorporation for a Principal, four senior Fellows or Tutors, and eight junior Fellows or Assistants. From a very early period, and up to the year 1740, this place of learning was called Hert Hall, and could boast of having within its walls many distinguished members. The celebrated Mr. Fox received his education here, under the tuition of Dr. Newcome, afterwards Primate of Ireland. The College became virtually dissolved in the year 1805, in consequence of the Chancellor of the University not appointing a Principal to succeed Dr. Bernard Hodgson, then lately deceased; and the buildings for the most part have gone gradually into decay, except the Principal's

House, Chapel, and Hall, which are in a tolerable state of repair. The College is now vested in the Crown by Escheat; but an Act of Parliament has lately passed, enabling his Majesty to make a grant of the property to the Chancellor, Masters, and Scholars of the University, in trust, for the Principal and other members of Magdalen Hall, which is intended to be pulled down, to enable the President and Fellows of Magdalen College to carry into execution their projected magnificent improvements. As soon as the dilapidated buildings at Hertford are restored, the Society of Magdalen Hall will remove, and become established at the site of Hertford College.

Over the gateway, which was built in 1688, is the LIBRARY, to which belongs a very valuable collection of books, bequeathed in 1777, along with 1000*l.* India Stock, as an endowment for the office of Librarian, by John Cole, Esq. of East Barming in Kent. The Library has been considerably enriched since that time by other contributions.

On the eastern side of the quadrangle is the HALL, which was originally built about the year 1560, as a refectory for the Society of Hart, or Hert, properly Hertford Hall. This was an ancient academic Hall, situated between Black Hall on the east, and le Micheld Hall on the west, and

occupying a considerable portion of the site of the present College. So early as the commencement of the reign of Edward I. one Henry Punchard made a conveyance of the said Hall to Joan Stocwell ; from whom, through the hands of two intermediate possessors, it came to Elias de Hertford ; whose letting it out as a place of study was the occasion of its being called Hertford Hall. From the son of this possessor it came into the hands of John de Dokelyngton, from whom Bishop Stapledon purchased it ; and having connected with it Arthur Hall, obtained a royal licence to appropriate both to the accommodation of twelve students. On the completion of Exeter College these students were removed thither ; but Hert Hall still continued a place of study, under the government of a Principal appointed by the College.

In the year 1740, Dr. Richard Newton, who had then been thirty years Principal of the Hall, obtained from King George II. a charter for erecting it into a College for a Principal, four senior Fellows or Tutors, eight junior Fellows or Assistants, eight probationary Students, twenty-four actual Students, and four Scholars, to be styled the *Principal and Fellows of Hertford College in the University of Oxford*.

The benevolent gentleman, to whom Oxford was

thus indebted for her twentieth College, was born in Yardley Chace, Northamptonshire. After a preparatory course of instruction at Westminster School, he was elected to a Studentship at Christ Church, in which College he became a highly esteemed tutor. In this capacity, after his institution to the Headship of Hert Hall, he superintended the education of the late Duke of Newcastle, and of the Duke's brother Mr. Pelham. Except the Rectory of Sudbury in Northamptonshire, the only preferment which Dr. Newton obtained was a Canonry of Christ Church. He died on the 21st of April, 1753, aged 77, having been Principal of his own foundation about thirteen years. The only parts of the intended buildings completed by him were the Chapel, the Principal's lodgings, and a portion of the new quadrangle. By the statutes it was provided, that the College "might assume the name of any person who should complete the endowment, or become the principal benefactor to it." But no such benefactor has yet arisen; and the original endowment being not only small in itself, but subjected in its application to injudicious restrictions, the College gradually declined. It is at present occupied by a Gentleman of the Law, who is placed there in trust for the Crown, until the intended Royal Grant be made to the University; after which a considerable part will be pulled down

and rebuilt, and other improvements will be made, so as to make it a suitable residence for the Principal and Society of Magdalen Hall, by which name it will hereafter be called.

Returning into High Street, we now cross it, and proceed down a lane^a that goes off from it in a southerly direction, immediately opposite to the porch of St. Mary's Church. At the bottom of this lane and on its eastern side we find

Oriel College,

the chief front of which, looking towards the west, is a regular and very pleasing elevation, three stories in height, lighted by ranges of windows of the ancient form, and surmounted by a double ogee battlement. Its principal feature is a handsome square tower, which rises over the gateway, and is ornamented by a neat bay or oriel window. The vaulting of the gateway is delicately wrought with fan-shaped tracery, and adorned with the arms of Charles I. From the portal we emerge into a spacious and regular quadrangle, singularly neat in its general appearance, and displaying in its eastern side an elevation of peculiar beauty, formed by the Hall, and the entrance to the Chapel. The

^a Now called St. Mary Hall Lane, formerly Schydlard Street.

centre of this elevation is highly ornamented. In front is a semi-hexagonal embattled portico, the ascent to which is by an expansive flight of steps. The roof is surmounted by two small cupolas, on one of which are painted the arms of England, as in the time of Edward II. without the *fleurs de lis*; on the other the plume of feathers, a bearing first assumed by the Founder of this College as Prince of Wales.

Immediately over the portico, in niches under coronal canopies, are placed statues of Kings Edward II. and III.; above these, in a niche of similar form, but of a smaller size, is a sculpture of the Virgin Mary, with the infant Jesus in her arms. A semicircular pediment crowns the centre of the façade; on each side of which is a series of well-proportioned pointed windows, and at each extremity a lofty bay projection. The remaining sides of the quadrangle are composed of buildings three stories high, ornamented with a double ogee battlement, which is also continued along the eastern side.

The several door-ways are adorned with the armorial bearings of different benefactors. On the northern side of the court are the apartments of the Provost; the western and southern sides consist of chambers for the Society.

At the south-eastern corner of the quadrangle is the entrance to the CHAPEL, with which we shall commence our tour through this College.

Built about the commencement of the calamitous period of the civil war, this place of worship can scarcely be expected to exhibit much splendour of interior decoration. It is, however, lofty, well-proportioned, and commodious; the ceiling is not inelegant, and the whole is distinguished by a peculiar neatness and simplicity. The floor is composed of white and black marble. In the eastern window, which is large and pointed, is a painting executed by Peckitt, after a design by the late ingenious Dr. Wall, of Worcester, and representing the *Presentation of our Saviour in the Temple*. Three noblemen, namely, the Duke of Beaufort, Lord Wenman, and Lord Leigh, jointly presented this window to the Chapel. Previously to the erection, in 1373, of the former Chapel, which was built solely at the expence of the Earl of Arundel and his son the Bishop of Ely, the Society of this College attended divine service at St. Mary's Church.

The HALL is a well-proportioned and well-finished room, lined with wainscotting, and ornamented with three portraits, namely, of Edward II. enthroned, and accompanied by the ensigns of

royalty, by Hudson ; of Queen Anne, by Dahl ; and of the Duke of Beaufort, by Soldi ; all at full length. The prevailing style of the decorations of the Hall is Doric. The windows are large and pointed ; in one of them are the arms of Pierre-point, Earl of Kingston, displaying no fewer than nineteen quarterings. Two ancient and very curious silver cups are among the plate belonging to the Hall. One of them, which is richly carved and gilt, was presented by the Founder ; the other by Bishop Carpenter ^b. Of the life of the former, thus incidentally mentioned, and of the steps taken by him in founding this College, we would embrace this opportunity of giving our usual concise account.

Although, as in the case of at least one other collegiate institution in Oxford, the founding of this College has usually been accounted a work of royalty, it is to a subject that the honour of Foundership really belongs Edward II. a monarch whose very name sends through the heart a thrill of horror and of pity, had for his almoner, in the days of his brighter fortune, one Adam de Brom. The

^b Of the vast quantity of ancient silver plate formerly belonging to the different Colleges, very little is now remaining. During the civil war, the Universities voluntarily contributed most of their plate for the supply of the King's necessities. That of Oxford was coined into money at New Inn Hall.

previous circumstances of the life of this ecclesiastic are enveloped in total obscurity; but in 1315 his name occurs as Rector of Hanworth, in Middlesex. His subsequent preferments were, it appears, the Chancellorship of Durham, the Archdeaconry of Stow, and the living of St. Mary the Virgin, Oxford. In 1324 we find De Brom, in consequence of his own petition, empowered to found at Oxford, to the honour of the Virgin Mary, a College of Scholars, who were to elect their own Rector, to be styled *Domus Scholarium Beatae Mariæ Oxon.* and to possess the power of buying lands and advowsons to the annual value of 30*l.* Having, in the terms of the charter thus granted to him, and which was dated December 6, 1324, founded a College for the study of divinity and logic, De Brom, in the hope, no doubt, of obtaining from the royal bounty that aid for his infant foundation which his own circumstances would not permit him to afford, surrendered the whole to the King. He had calculated rightly; the King became its foster father, granted a new and extended charter, made an addition to its endowment, and enlarged the Society's power of making purchases, appointing De Brom himself the first Provost.

This charter, accompanied by a body of statutes under the great seal, bearing date Jan. 21, 1325,

O. S. was one of the latest acts of that unfortunate King's reign. The troubles which soon after terminated in his deposition and death had already begun. The Queen with her son were in France preparing an invasion, to be supported immediately on her landing by a powerful faction in this country, of which Henry Burgash, Bishop of Lincoln, was a principal member. In this state of things, it was not to be expected that the new College, situated as it was within the diocese of that prelate, could resist a storm which overthrew its founder. Its existence was accordingly saved by timely submission. At the instance of the Bishop a new body of statutes was framed by the Provost and Fellows, during this year of distraction and rebellion, in which, although the King is still called the Founder, and the substance of the former statutes is preserved, yet the Bishop of Lincoln is recognized as possessing the authority of Visitor. They are about four months later in date than the Royal statutes; and it is a curious, perhaps an unparalleled instance of right recovered, and one which strikingly illustrates the stability and energy of our Law, that upon a formal hearing in the Court of Common Pleas, in the year 1726, just 400 years after the Usurpation began, this second body of statutes was set aside, the Bishop of Lincoln was declared not to have the power of Visitor, and the full authority of the original sta-

tutes was restored. The right indeed never seems to have been wholly forgotten in the College; for the original instrument was always preserved, and by virtue of that instrument the Lord Chancellor's authority had occasionally been exercised, instead of that of the Bishop of Lincoln. But these instances were very rare; whereas the Bishop's authority had been exercised sometimes for near a century together without interruption.

But to return to our foundation. The protection of the new government being thus secured, the young King adopted and continued his father's work. In the first year of his reign he gave a spacious and handsome building called **LE ORIOLE**, the history of which is deserving of notice, not only as being the site of the present College, but because its name has been long applied to a certain form of window, and its etymology, which will account for that application, has been strangely mistaken by Mr. Warton and other antiquaries. **LE ORIOLE** or **LA ORIOLE**, as the name is always spelt in the contemporary writings, is merely the French form of **ORIO LUM**, a word which frequently occurs in the monkish writers and other Latin documents of the middle ages, in the sense of a gateway, porch, or portal. This part of every handsome building was usually adorned with a large projecting window over the

entrance, and hence *all* windows of that shape and character by degrees acquired the name of **ORIOLE** or **ORIEL** windows. The building of which we are speaking (which was certainly of considerable extent, especially when compared with the ordinary size of houses in walled towns) seems to have been distinguished by its gateway; and the name of the most remarkable part was probably soon extended to the whole, as is often the case at the present time with the words *tower*, *lodge*, *hall*, or, to mention an example still more in point, the *sublime porte*.

As French was at that time the court language, this edifice, being royal property, and a few years before having been in the actual occupation of the Queen, naturally received a French name. From the title-deeds it appears to have been granted (subject to a chief rent of 4*d.*) by Henry III. to Bogo de Clare, an ecclesiastic of high family: by him it was given to Eleanor, Queen of Edward I. a Spanish Princess, who granted it to her Chaplain, Jacobus de Hispania, for his life. During the time of its alienation from the crown, it was occupied by students, and is often mentioned by the name of *Aula Seneschalli*, *Steward's Hall*. After its return however into royal hands the name of *Oriole* became so fixed, that it prevailed over the corporate style of the foundation, which

is, *The House of the Blessed Mary the Virgin in Oxford*; for in a deed, nearly coeval with the foundation, to this description is subjoined, *commonly called Oriole College*.

The reversion then of this message having been freely given by the King, De Brom purchased of the Spanish Chaplain his life interest in it, and immediately transplanted his College to the spot; their residence having been, during the first four years of the foundation, in a large building in the High Street, nearly opposite the house of the Principal of Brasen-nose College, then called Tackley's Inn, and afterwards Bulkely Hall, of which some ancient relics are still to be seen. He also bestowed two advowsons on the College, and in the following year obtained a grant from the King of the Hospital of St. Bartholomew, of which a description will hereafter be given.

The buildings on the south and west sides of the present quadrangle were begun in 1630; those on the north and east in 1637. The whole expence was defrayed by subscription among its members, the Provost Blencowe alone giving 1300*l*.

Proceeding next into the inner court, formerly a garden, which lies to the north of the first quadrangle, we find on both its eastern and western

sides an additional pile of building, partaking of the architectural character of the quadrangle, but of considerably more recent construction; having been erected, each through the liberality of a single benefactor, some time after the commencement of the 18th century. An inscription, accompanied by a Runic motto, implying *Omnino homo pulveris incrementum*, placed on the front of the eastern wing, informs us that it was built at the expence of Bishop Robinson, who was also in other respects a munificent benefactor to this College. The western wing was built, in consequence of a bequest for that and other purposes, by Dr. George Carter, Provost of the College. The former appears to have been completed in the year 1719, and the latter in 1730.

On the north side of this court is a building of chaste and elegant design, erected in 1788, under the direction of Wyatt, containing the College LIBRARY^b; which, in 1786, received an important

^b In this Library is preserved a MS. Commentary on Genesis, written by one John Capgrove an Augustinian monk of Canterbury in the fourteenth century. The initial letter of the dedication, which is to Duke Humphrey of Gloucester, contains a curious illumination of the author presenting his book to his patron. It contains a memorandum in the Duke's hand-writing of the copy being presented to him at his manor of Penshurst. Mr. Warton supposes this to have been one of the books given by Duke Humphrey to the University, and to have been lost, as the rest were, about the time of the Reformation.

addition to its stores, in a curious and estimable collection of books, bequeathed by the late Lord Leigh, of Stoneleigh in Warwickshire, who had been a nobleman of this College, and afterwards High Steward of the University. In the Library is a picture, by Vasari, representing a group of Italian poets; and in the gallery, a scarce print of the same. A room adjoining to the latter is lined with part of the rich wainscotting that formerly belonged to New College chapel.

Regaining High Street, and proceeding in an easterly direction along its southern side, we soon reach

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE,

to which some assign precedence of foundation among the Colleges of Oxford. Its front, which extends to the length of 260 feet along the southern side of High Street, has a sombre and venerably ancient aspect; which, as Mr. Chalmers remarks, joined to "its numerous Gothic ornaments, " and especially when contrasted with the airy " grandeur of its opposite neighbour, Queen's, " serves to perpetuate the notion, that this is the

* The present buildings were nevertheless commenced only in the year 1634.

“eldest daughter of *Alma Mater*^d.” It is a regular elevation of three stories, embattled in the ogee manner, and lighted by uniform ranges of windows similar in form to those described in a note appended to the description of Exeter College.

At equal distances from the extremities of the front are gateways, respectively leading into the eastern and western courts, and each surmounted by an embattled tower. Over the western gateway is placed a statue of Queen Anne^e towards the street, and of James II. towards the quadrangle; over the eastern portal, a statue of Queen Mary fronts the street, and one of Dr. Radcliffe, the court. The vaultings of both gateways are adorned with fan-shaped tracery.

The principal quadrangle is that to which ad-

^d History of the Colleges, p. 35.

^e A statue of Alfred, which formerly stood in the place now occupied by that of Queen Anne, was afterwards placed over the Hall door, but was removed, together with one of St. Cuthbert, from over the Chapel door. It may not be uninteresting to remark, that, with the exception of the one behind Whitehall, no other statue of King James II. is known to exist than that over the western portal of University College. One which stood on the Sand-hill, at Newcastle upon Tyne, was thrown into the river by an infuriate mob at the Revolution; but being afterwards raised, was converted into a peal of bells for St. Andrew's church in that town.

mission is afforded by the western gateway. It is spacious and regular; and bears in its general features no slight resemblance to the quadrangle of Oriel College. Three of its sides are uniform, and exceedingly neat; the fourth, which looks towards the north, is of a more elevated architectural character. In it are contained the Chapel and Hall, each of which exhibits a range of handsome pointed windows. On the centre of this side is a pediment containing a clock; and beneath, a handsome oriel window between two canopied niches.

The HALL is among the most splendid refectories in the University. Its principal decorations have been executed with peculiar elegance, and an apparently total disregard of expence. They consist chiefly of an enriched wainscotting, a screen, and a splendid marble chimney-piece, all in the pointed style; of paintings on glass and on canvas; and of the arms of benefactors; the last of which are disposed over the ceiling of the Hall. The paintings on canvas consist of portraits of Sir Roger Newdigate, Lord Radnor, Sir William Scott^f, Sir Robert Chambers, Lord Moira, a full length by Hoppner, and W.

^f This gentleman is one of the Representatives of the University in Parliament, and has long ranked as a Civilian of the very first eminence.

Wyndham, Esq. by Laurence. The paintings on glass in the southern window represent our Saviour, Moses, and Elias; they were the work of Giles of York, a glass painter of some celebrity. The marble chimney-piece, which is most elaborately wrought, was the gift of Sir Roger Newdigate.

South of this quadrangle is a detached building containing the LIBRARY, which was built in the year 1669. It is well furnished with books, and contains also numerous manuscripts; a happy change from its condition at the period when, according to Anthony a Wood, chests were the depositories of the few volumes of which it consisted, and when even the members of the Society, who met but once or twice a-year for the purpose of borrowing from its stores, were obliged to grant formal written acknowledgments for the loan.

From a visit to the CHAPEL of this College the visitor of taste will derive considerable gratification. The roof is finely groined in the ancient manner. The screen is of the Corinthian order, enriched with the delicate carving of Gibbons, whose excellence in this branch of art has never, it is confessed, been equalled. The eastern window is filled with painted glass by Giles, whose work has, in this instance, unfortunately proved very pe-

ishable. The other painted windows, although of far more ancient date, having been executed by Abraham Van Linge, in the year 1641, are still in capital preservation, and display all that vividness of colouring for which the works of the old painters on glass were so remarkable. The altarpiece, a *Salvator Mundi* after Carlo Dolce, is a performance of much curiosity, the design being, as it is termed, burnt in wood; "a mode of delineating objects which certainly produces a very extraordinary effect, and may be ranked among the most ingenious substitutes for the pencils." Round this piece is a sort of frame, composed of carved work, attributed to Gibbons, but unfortunately covered with a too thick coat of varnish.

In an arch at the western end of the ante-chapel, a monument, the gift of Lady Jones, has recently been erected to the memory of that lady's husband, the late Sir William Jones; a gentleman of whom the College has just reason to be proud. The monument was the work of Flaxman, and does him great credit. On a tablet in the centre is a group of sculpture in bas relief, representing Sir William, with Brahmins in attendance, employed in translating the Hindoo code. The graceful ease of the principal figure,

and the characteristic countenances and posture of the priests of Brahma, are equally deserving of commendation. The various emblematic decorations are also well sculptured. There has likewise been put up in the present year, opposite the Chapel door, an elegant monument, the gift of Lady Chambers, to the memory of Sir Robert Chambers, Knt. who died at Paris in 1803, and now lies interred amongst the Fellows of the Middle Temple, London.

The COMMON-ROOM of this College merits a visit from the curious stranger. Among its ornaments are a good bust of Alfred, by Wilton; portraits, burnt in wood, of King Henry IV. and of Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester; and an engraved portrait of Dr. Samuel Johnson; who was a frequent visitor at this room on those periodical journeys to Oxford, in which, when his literary reputation had reached its zenith, and his circumstances had been rendered easy, that great and good man so much delighted. The bust of Alfred is generally, though perhaps erroneously, referred to as that of the Founder. No very satisfactory evidence of that monarch's having founded *any* College has, we believe, yet been laid before the world. We must therefore acquiesce in the arguments which assign to this particular College a Founder of less dignity, in William of Durham. Into the nature of these arguments,

however, we cannot enter any farther, than by giving some account of this benefactor, and of that bequest of his to the University, which ultimately led to the founding of this College. Nor will it consist either with our plan or with our limits, to discuss another question connected with this foundation, and which has been the subject of rather keen controversy, namely, whether priority, in point of actual foundation, as a *College*, belongs to this establishment. We may however be permitted briefly to remark on this subject, that the reasoning of Mr. Smith^a, in favour of the claim of University College to priority of foundation, does not appear conclusive. We cannot admit, that the persons benefited by William of Durham's bequest of money, constituted from the first a College; for although we should scarcely be disposed to consider, with Mr. Chalmers, "buildings of brick and stone, gates, towers, and quadrangles," absolutely essential to the constitution of the said College, we have always held a charter of incorporation to be an indispensable requisite.

William, surnamed, probably from the place of his nativity, of Durham, an ecclesiastic of the thirteenth century, was the person then from

^a In his History of University College.

whose bequest the Society of University College is now generally admitted to date its origin. He is supposed to have been educated either in the monastery of his native city, or in the neighbouring one of Wearmouth, whence he was probably sent to complete his studies at Oxford. But the existing accounts of this benefactor are extremely meagre. Little more seems to be known than that he became Rector of Wearmouth and Archdeacon of Durham, and that his death took place in 1249, at Rouen in Normandy, on his return from the papal court; whither he had been to solicit the Bishopric of Durham, vacant by the death of his friend Bishop Farnham. It seems that the Pope had bestowed on him the archiepiscopal mitre of Rouen, instead of that which he came to solicit. According to Leland, he was buried in the cathedral of that city. He left to the University of Oxford the sum of 310 marks, to be laid out in the purchase of rents for supporting ten or more Masters, (Master was then the highest academical degree,) natives of Durham, or of its vicinity. During some time, the money thus bequeathed was lent out at interest to Scholars, and the proceeds applied to the sustenance of the Masters on the foundation; but in 1253, the Chancellor and Masters of the University began to make purchases, applying the rents of the purchased property in a similar way. At

length, in 1280¹, the whole property which had arisen out of William of Durham's bequest was finally deposited by the University in the hands of his Scholars, whose affairs were to be placed under the management of four Masters. To the Society thus established in something of a collegiate form, a small code of statutes was given in the year 1292², and in 1311 another and more enlarged one, in which the members of the establishment were directed to be called *William of Durham's Scholars*. Where the Society thus organized first resided, is not quite certain, but the general voice seems inclined to place them in University Hall, on the site of which part of Brasen-nose College now stands. Hence, in 1343, they are supposed to have migrated to a tenement on the site of the present College, belonging to one Andrew de Durham, an Alderman of Oxford, from whom it derived its name, which was afterwards changed to Selverne, and subsequently to Spicer's Hall. When fixed here, the Society assumed the designation of the *Masters and Scholars of the Hall of the University of Oxford*, calling their place of residence Great University Hall. Additional purchases were soon afterwards made, and about

¹ It is worthy of remark, that, at this period, the rate of interest was eleven per cent, and the accustomed rate of purchase ten years.

² The first statutes were dated 1280.

the middle of the fourteenth century their buildings had assumed the usual quadrangular form.

Let us now, in the last place, take a peep into the eastern court, which consists of only three rows of building, and is considerably smaller than that which we have left. Two of its sides are appropriated to the accommodation of the Master, whose garden wall, nearly concealed by a luxuriant shrubbery, bounds the court on the south.

Of the front of

QUEEN'S COLLEGE,

whither we are now bound, an excellent view is obtained immediately on re-crossing the threshold of University eastern court. Arrayed in all the splendour of classic architecture, she expands her airy front to the width of 220 feet on the northern side of High Street, one of the most conspicuous ornaments of which she certainly forms. The front before us consists of a centre and two wings, connected by a lower and rather retiring range of building, a kind of screen in fact, into which tall niches are wrought at regular intervals. In the centre, between columns of rustic work, is the grand gate of entrance; over which rises a light

stone dome, supported by coupled columns. The intercolumniations being left completely open, discover, beneath the apex of the dome, a statue of Queen Caroline. The wings, which are formed by the terminations of the eastern and western ranges of chambers, consist of two stories, (the lower one rustic,) crowned by pediments, each pediment supporting three statues, and having its tympanum charged with sculpture. The quadrangle into which we are ushered through the great gateway is a truly magnificent specimen of Grecian architecture. It was executed by Hawksmoor, after a design of either Sir Christopher Wren or Dr. Lancaster, and was no shorter a time than forty-nine years in building; having been begun in 1710, and finished only in 1759. It has been frequently said to resemble the Luxembourg palace in Paris. How far this may be true with respect to the interior of the quadrangle we know not, but in a view now before us, of the principal front of the Luxembourg, a considerable resemblance to that of Queen's College is at once apparent. The dome, however, over the grand gate of the former is of much greater proportional magnitude, and consequently imparts more dignity to the façade. Chambers occupy the eastern and western sides of the quadrangle, along which, and along the southern side, is carried a lofty piazza, the arches of which are supported by square

rusticated pillars. On the western side are the apartments of the Provost; in an attic chamber adjoining to which, on the 18th of December 1778, a fire accidentally broke out, and destroyed the whole interior of the western range of chambers. The expence of rebuilding, amounting to 6494*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.* was defrayed by a prompt and liberal subscription, which, says Mr. Chalmers, “afforded “proof, if any were wanting, of the perpetuity of “that munificent spirit which was so strikingly “exemplified by the Founders of the English “Universities.” The northern side of this quadrangle presents an elevation of much grandeur, composed of the Chapel and Hall. The centre, which is pierced by a passage leading into the inner court, exhibits four massive three-quarter columns of the Doric order, supporting an entablature and pediment, the tympanum of which is filled with emblematical sculpture in high relief. Immediately over the passage rises a clock turret, of singularly elegant form and delicate proportions, ornamented by couplets of detached Ionic columns, projecting diagonally, and crowned by a cupola^a. The Chapel and Hall both display a series of tall round-headed windows, with a Doric pilaster between each, supporting the peculiar entablature of that order, and a handsome balustrade above.

^a The beauty of this turret has, however, been greatly impaired by the injurious effects of the weather.

The inner court, although smaller than the outer one, and inferior to it in elegance, is yet both spacious and well-built. Chambers occupy its northern, eastern, and southern sides. The LIBRARY, a fine and highly ornamented structure of the Corinthian order, takes up the whole of the western division.

Into this building we would first introduce our stranger, who will find its interior answerable in every respect to the expectations raised by its outward splendour. The books, &c. are lodged in presses ornamented with fine carving. The roof is wrought into compartments of stucco work, executed with great lightness and taste by the late Mr. Roberts. A variety of busts and portraits, and a cast of the Florentine boar, the latter presented by Sir Roger Newdigate, enter also into the list of decorative appendages. The collections of Dr. Halton^b, Bishop Barlow^c, and Sir John Floyer^d, form a part of this valuable Library; besides which, it has been enriched by the manuscripts (principally heraldic, or relating to his own diplomatic transactions) of Sir Joseph William-

^b Provost of Queen's in 1677, and who also contributed great part of the expence of building the Library.

^c Who, however, left a small portion of his books and MSS. to the Bodleian, of which he was at one time Keeper.

^d An eminent Physician of Lichfield.

son, and by the series of coins and numismatical works, which belonged to Mr. Michell. A well-constructed orrery was also, in the year 1763, presented for the use of the Library, by six Gentlemen Commoners.

Among the more interesting of the numerous portraits which adorn the room, may be reckoned two ancient ones on glass, of Henry V.^c and Cardinal Beaufort. These were formerly in the window of a room of the old College, known by the name of Henry the Fifth's chamber, on the pulling down of which, they appear to have been for some time lost; but, being fortunately recovered by Alderman Fletcher, they were by him restored to the Society. Here is also a portrait of the learned Bishop Gibson, whose edition of Camden's Britannia did him so much honour.

From the Library proceeding to the HALL, we find a large well-finished and highly ornamented room, the windows and walls of which display a great number of interesting portraits. The roof is plain, but finely arched. At the western ex-

^c Notwithstanding the authority of Stowe, who places him at New College, this illustrious Prince has always been claimed as a Student by Queen's, and the claim has been generally allowed. His chamber is said to have been over the great eastern gate of the old College, opposite to Edmund Hall. In this chamber was the portrait, on glass, mentioned in the text.

tremity of the room is an opening intended for an orchestra, communicating with the western arcade of the principal quadrangle. Hither are strangers, who wish to see a Society of Academians at dinner, usually brought. The chimney-piece is of marble, and boasts considerable elegance of design. Among the portraits, which are too numerous to be severally noticed, those on glass occupy the arched tops of the lofty windows that give light to the Hall. They are principally those of five English Sovereigns, with three of their Queens, of the Founder, and of some distinguished members of the Society. The portraits on canvas are in several instances duplicates of those on glass. That which naturally claims our attention first is a full length of the Founder, at the upper end of the room. The subject of this picture, Robert surnamed de Eglesfeld or Eggesfield, from a hamlet of that name in Cumberland, at which he is supposed to have been born, was the son of John de Eglesfeld, Rector of Brough in Westmoreland, and descended from an honourable and opulent family in the former county. Having entered into the church, Robert de Eglesfeld became confessor to Philippa, consort of Edward III. and had the good fortune to acquire the esteem and confidence of both the King and Queen. Impelled by a natural attachment to the county in which he first drew

breath, he became anxious to provide for such of its natives as might be inclined to literature the means of obtaining that education, which in the rude and barbarous state of the border counties, then torn and distracted by perpetual and bloody feuds, could not be obtained within their limits. With this view de Eglesfeld, on the 18th of January, 1340, obtained from his royal patron a charter of foundation for a collegiate establishment, to be called *Aula Scholarium Reginae de Oxon.* and to consist of a Provost and twelve Fellows or Scholars, the former of whom was to be chosen out of the latter, and to be in Holy Orders. The Scholars were to be natives of Cumberland or Westmoreland, or, failing such, of counties in which the Society should be possessed of estates or advowsons. Two of the provisions made by de Eglesfeld in the statutes are strongly illustrative of the feudal spirit of the time. The sound of a trumpet was to summon the members of the College to their daily repast; when the poor Scholars^f were to kneel on one side of the table, while the Fellows, arrayed in scarlet robes, propounded

^f The Founder is thought to have intended making provision for seventy of these; in which case there would have been a numerical analogy between this Society, and the sacred College formed by our blessed Saviour, while on earth, with the twelve Apostles and the seventy Disciples.

to them, from the other side, questions in philosophy. The first of these customs is still retained; along with two others of considerable singularity; to which we shall shortly advert.

From the name given by de Eglesfeld to his new foundation it has been inferred, that Queen Philippa either afforded her aid to the institution at its first establishment, or had expressed a willingness to extend to it her future patronage and support. During the lifetime of the Founder, he attended himself to its interests with the utmost solicitude. He extended the original site by additional purchases, and obtained from Kings Edward III. and IV. sundry advowsons. After his death, which took place in 1349, Queen Philippa became the patroness of the College; since which time, the Queens of England, several of whom have also proved benefactresses, have always been considered honorary patronesses to this institution. De Eglesfeld is supposed to have been interred in the old College chapel; beneath the communion table of which a brass plate was discovered, bearing an effigy of a priest "in a cap and rich rochet, powdered with fleurs de lis in lozenges, and fastened on his breast with a jewel. The sleeves of his gown were faced with fur. As every known portrait of De Eglesfeld resembles this effigy, it is reasonably enough conjectured to have been his.

Among the other portraits on canvas, are those of Addison and Tickell; the former of whom was a Commoner of Queen's previously to his being elected a Demy of Magdalen College. The gallery before spoken of contains also a number of portraits, among which are those of Mary Queen of Scotland, and Queen Elizabeth.

Every Christmas day this refectory witnesses the observance of an ancient custom, retained perhaps in no other part of the kingdom, although once very common on great festival days, that of bringing up a boar's head in great state to the table. Of the manner in which the ceremony is conducted at Queen's, the following account is given by Aubrey, in one of his manuscripts repositied in the Ashmolean Museum. "The boar's head being boiled or roasted, is laid in a great charger, covered with a garland of bays or laurel. When the first course is served up in the refectory on Christmas-day, the manciple brings the said boar's head from the kitchen up to the high table, accompanied by one of the Taberdars, who lays his hand on the charger. The Taberdar^b sings the following song, and,

^a Manciples, the purveyors general of Colleges, were formerly men of so much consequence, that, in order to check their ambition, it was expressly ordered by statute, that no manciple should be Principal of a Hall.

^b Taberdars were so called from a part of their former dress, called

“when he comes to the chorus, all the Scholars
 “that are in the refectory join together and sing
 “it!”

The boar's head in hand bear I,
 Bedecked with bays and rosemary;
 And I pray you masters merry be,
Quotquot estis in convivio.

CHORUS. Caput Apri defero,
 Reddens laudes Domino.

The boar's head, as I understand,
 Is the bravest dish in the land,
 Being thus bedecked with a gay garland,
 Let us *servire cantico*.
 Caput Apri, &c.

a taberdum or tabard. This was a short gown without sleeves, open at both sides, with a square collar winged at the shoulders.

¹ Till towards the middle of the seventeenth century, it appears to have been customary to bring up to the gentlemen's tables, as the first dish on Christmas day, a boar's head with a lemon in its mouth; and although the custom has grown obsolete among the gentry, a relique of it is still observable at the tables of the yeomanry, particularly of the northern parts of the kingdom, to which a pig's head is rarely brought without having its jaws distended by either a lemon or an apple. Tradition, however, represents this usage of Queen's, as a commemoration of an act of valour performed by a Student of the College, who, while walking in the neighbouring forest of Shotover, and reading Aristotle, was suddenly attacked by a wild boar. The furious beast came open-mouthed upon the youth, who, however, very courageously, and with a happy presence of mind, is said to have “rammed in the” volume, and cried, *Græcum est*,” fairly choking the savage with the sage.

Our steward has provided this,
 In honour of the King of bliss,
 Which on this day to be served is

In Reginensi Atrio.

Caput Apri, &c.

While we are on the subject of one old custom, we are reminded of another, also peculiar to this College. On the morning of every New Year's day, the Bursar presents to each member of the Society a needle and thread, accompanying his gift with the injunction, "Take this, and be "thrifty." The practice is said to have been founded on a rather fanciful derivation of the name Eglesfeld from the French *aiguille*, needle, and *fil*, thread^k.

Hasten we now to the CHAPEL, the magnitude, furniture, and decorations of which are fully accordant with the opulence and extent of the establishment to which it appertains. Its exterior,

^k As a confirmation of the opinion which gives Henry V. as a Student to Queen's College, may be mentioned a circumstance recorded by Hollingshed, and which indeed, if the chronicler's authority be admitted, seems completely decisive of the point in dispute; namely, that when the Prince, against whom "certain "charges of disaffection" had been brought, went to court, to clear himself from the imputation, he wore a gown of blue satin, full of oilet holes, and at every hole a needle hanging by a silken thread.

as we have already said, is Doric, but the richer order of Corinth prevails within. Eleven lofty windows, uniform in size and shape, and all completely filled with painted glass, admit the light. Four of these range along each side, and three around the eastern end, which is of a semicircular form. The Holy Family in the window immediately above the altar was the work of Price, who was also, in the year 1715, employed to repair the six windows, by Van Linge, which, together with four others of still more ancient date, were brought from the former Chapel. As is generally the case with the older painted windows, the glass in some of the latter retains nearly its original brilliancy of colouring, although the subjects delineated are gradually losing their distinctness of outline. Beneath the window mentioned before as the work of Price is a painting by Cranke of Antwerp, copied from the celebrated *Night of Correggio*; a picture long considered one of the chief ornaments of the Dresden gallery. The ceiling is embellished with a painting of the *Ascension*, by Sir James Thornhill.

To close our descriptive sketch of this College, without noticing what is termed the Michell foundation, might justly be deemed improper. In the year 1736, John Michell, Esq. of Richmond in Surry, bequeathed sundry valuable estates in the

counties of Kent and Berks to Queen's College, in perpetuity, for the support of eight Master Fellows, four Bachelor Scholars, and four Exhibitioners; for the construction of buildings suitable for the accommodation of these, and for the purchase of advowsons and presentations to be annexed to the Fellowships. For this noble bequest, the estimated annual value of which was about 700*l.* the College is said, by Mr. Chalmers, to be indebted to the zeal of Provost Smith, to whom Queen's likewise owes many other obligations. The eastern side of the first quadrangle is allotted to the use of the members of this foundation, who have every collegiate privilege in common with the rest of the Society.

Departing from Queen's College, by a passage in the eastern side of the inner quadrangle, we find ourselves in Edmund Hall Lane, nearly opposite to the church of St. Peter in the East; passing which, and turning to the left into Queen's College Lane, we soon obtain a picturesque view of the towers and pinnacles of All Souls. An abrupt turn to the right next introduces us through an old gateway with a pointed arch, (the vaulting of which, according to Dr. Mavor, has the peculiarity of seeming distorted, though not really so,) into New College Lane, the eastern extremity of which is closed by

NEW COLLEGE

itself; which, viewed from this point, makes an appearance but little indicative of its actual extent and grandeur. A gateway, surmounted by a tower of no great height, ornamented with three figures, the Founder kneeling, the Virgin Mary, and an Angel, is all that presents itself in front. The portal cleared, however, we find ourselves in a spacious quadrangle, bordered on the east, south, and west, by lines of plain, substantial buildings, three stories in height; and on the north, by a truly majestic pile of pointed architecture, comprising the Chapel and the Hall. On the eastern side of the quadrangle are the rooms appropriated to the Library; and on the western side those allotted to the accommodation of the Warden^a. A gateway beneath the former leads into the Garden court, the buildings of which "widen by triple breaks" as they proceed towards the east. This court is divided from the Gardens themselves by a handsome railing of wrought iron, said to have been brought from Canons in Middlesex, the magnificent seat of the Duke of Chandos, and well known as the "Timon's Villa" of Pope's malignant satire. Entering the Gardens, and still proceeding east-

^a In these lodgings are many valuable paintings, and among them an old portrait of the Founder, kneeling.

ward, we arrive at the city wall; which incloses them on the east and north. Including a bowling green on the south east, they occupy a large space of ground. Besides an artificial mount, now thickly planted with shrubs, these Gardens formerly displayed the royal arms, a dial, and a knot, all curiously executed in topiary work; but these objects of vulgar admiration have long since given place to the natural and graceful dispositions adopted by modern taste. In the attached bowling green is an alcove or temple, which is also said to exhibit some of the spoils of Canons.

Returning from the Gardens, we obtain a fine view of the eastern, generally indeed considered the principal front of the College, which is commonly understood to have been built in imitation of the palace of Versailles, or, as Mr. Chalmers thinks, "more probably of the King's House at Winchester, as designed by Sir Christopher Wren, but with battlements to correspond with the old quadrangle and city wall." It consists of three lofty stories, surmounted by a battlement, and has unquestionably a grand and imposing appearance.

On regaining the principal quadrangle^b, just at

^b A statue of Minerva, which formerly stood in the centre of the court, has been some years removed. During the civil war,

the moment of emerging from the portal, we catch perhaps the very finest view of the surrounding edifices. Seen from this point, even the old gateway tower, although from a heightening of the contiguous edifices it appears disproportionately low, and although its windows, in common with those of other parts of the quadrangle, have been ruthlessly modernized, still retains a portion of its original character. A statue of the Founder yet occupies one of its niches; and an octagonal turret, bearing a large crocketed pinnacle, graces its north-eastern angle. Battlements it has none; neither do any appear on the noble pile containing the Chapel and Hall. These, which were constructed at a period, at which, in the opinion of those who consider the exuberance of embellishment that marked its later and more florid era only as proof of degeneracy, the English style had reached perfection, are especially characterized by a majestic simplicity, and display but a very moderate portion of exterior ornament. The windows, which are very large, and inserted beneath obtusely pointed arches, are severally divided by munnions and a transom into eight cinque-foil headed lights, and headed with tracery of graceful but simple designs. Between the win-

the area of the quadrangle was used as a place of exercise for the armed students.

dows, graduated buttresses run lightly up the walls, and, rising to a considerable height above the parapet, terminate in crocketed pinnacles.

At the north-eastern corner of the quadrangle is the HALL, with which we shall commence our tour through the interior of the principal buildings. Over the entrance is a sculptured effigy of the Founder. The room itself is spacious, well proportioned, and lined with ancient wainscoting, part of which is ornamented with curious carving. Besides many other productions of the pencil, its walls are decorated with portraits of William of Wykeham, William of Waynfleet, and Archbishop Chichele; a truly venerable triumvirate of Founders of Colleges.

Nearly five centuries have now rolled away since, at the obscure village of Wykeham (now Wickham) in Hampshire, whence he derived his surname, the Founder of this College first opened his eyes on the light of day. Wykeham's origin was humble. His parents though reputable, and most probably of respectable descent, were in too confined circumstances to afford their son the means of a liberal education. Fortunately, however, for after ages, Providence raised him up a friend in the person of Nicholas Uvedale or Wodale, Lord of the manor of Wykeham, by whom

he was placed and maintained at the grammar school of Winchester. Here, besides attending to his grammatical pursuits, he devoted his leisure to mathematics, logic, divinity, and the study of canon and civil law. On quitting school, he for some time officiated as secretary to his patron, who was at that time constable of Winchester, and by whom, or by Bishop Edyngton, he was introduced to King Edward III. This sovereign, whose magnificent turn of mind is well known, soon discovering that Wykeham, in addition to talents for business of no ordinary kind, possessed also a degree of skill in the principles of drawing and architecture, that would in an eminent degree qualify him for superintending the construction of several splendid edifices with which Edward was then preparing to adorn his kingdom, made him in 1356, Clerk or Overseer of the royal works at Windsor. In 1359 he received the appointment of Chief Warden and Surveyor of the principal manors and castles within the kingdom belonging to royalty. Having also entered into Holy Orders, he obtained, during the interval between the date of the last mentioned appointment and the year 1366, among other clerical preferments, the Deanery of the collegiate church of St. Martin's le Grand, London.

In the year 1366, though but forty-two years of

age, he was raised to the episcopal bench, as Bishop of Winchester. Even before this splendid piece of preferment was conferred on him, the income arising from his livings was very considerable^c; but, as Dr. Milner remarks, "he only received the revenues of the church with one hand, to expend them in her service with the other." Shortly after his advancement to the mitre, he was appointed to the dignified office of Lord High Chancellor; the duties of which he fulfilled in the most exemplary manner, although he did not long retain it. Within a few years from his appointment to the office, Parliament having presented a petition against entrusting churchmen with any share in the management of political affairs, Wykeham resigned the Chancellorship. His conduct during the time in which he had held this high office, had however not only been unimpeachable, but even appears to have procured him a great share of popularity; yet, such were the unhappy circumstances of the times, that the most exalted public virtue, united to the practice of all the Christian and social duties, proved but too often an insufficient security for the honour, the fortune, nay, even the life, of its possessor. So it was with Wykeham.

^c In Fuller's Church History, Wykeham is said to have held at one time no fewer than twelve prebends.

Shortly after his resignation of the Great Seal, articles of impeachment, eight in number, were exhibited against him by a party headed by the Duke of Lancaster; and although seven of these were triumphantly refuted, the eighth was made a ground for the seizure of his temporalities, and for his exclusion from the administrative circles. The temporalities were indeed soon restored, but the animosity of party annexed to their restoration the condition of fitting out for a given time three ships of war; or, should they not be needed, of paying to the King the expence of their equipment. The non-existence of any real ground for imposing on him so harsh a condition, was clearly proved by that solemn declaration of acquittal from all the accusations brought against him by the Lancasterian party, which was one of the first acts of the Privy Council in the new reign. Edward the Third having died in June 1377, and been succeeded by Richard the Second, Wykeham was called from his retirement, and associated with other commissioners for the purpose of enquiring into the abuses of the late reign.

On Richard's assuming the reins of government, he was also once more elevated to the Chancellorship. Great were now the services rendered to his King and country by this veteran legislator and counsellor, whose vigilance, pru-

dence, and firmness, were never more required than during Richard's unfortunate reign. But his counsels, judicious as they were, could not effect a change of the measures which ultimately led to the deposition of that unhappy monarch. Age too, with its attendant infirmities, was beginning to impair the venerable prelate's energies; and he languished for retirement and repose. In 1391, therefore, he resigned the Great Seal, and withdrew altogether from public affairs. Thirteen years longer, however, was Wykeham spared to carry on his grand and benevolent designs; till at length, in the year 1404, full of years and rich in good works, he was called to receive the promised reward. The Bishop's death took place at his favourite palace of Waltham in Hampshire; but he was interred in a monumental chapel, which he had previously caused to be constructed within his own cathedral, for the reception of his remains.

It appears to have been during the most active part of his political life that Wykeham projected an institution of the kind, which he afterwards so happily completed, and with a view to which he began to make purchases in the city of Oxford so early as the year 1368. In 1373 he founded at Winchester the School intended as a nursery for his College at Oxford, the Society of which was

also formed about the same time^d, although the collegiate edifices were not commenced till March 1380. In six years these were completed; and, on the 14th of April 1386, the Society was formally put in possession of them, by the title of *Sainte Marie College of Wynchestre, in Oxenford*^e. This Society consisted of a Warden, seventy Scholars, ten Chaplains, three Clerks^f, and sixteen Choristers, of whom twenty were to study law, and the remainder philosophy or arts, and theology; and for whose maintenance liberal provision was made by the Founder.

The School at Winchester^g was founded on the site of one known to have existed before the year 1136, and in which Wykeham had himself re-

^d It consisted of a Warden and seventy Fellows, who were styled *Pauperes Scholares Venerabilis Domini Wilhelmi de Wykeham Wynton Episcopi*, and were lodged in hired dwellings, known by the names of Blake, Hart, Schilde, Mayden, and Hammer Halls.

^e The name of New College, which was then properly enough applied to it, has unaccountably been continued to the present time.

^f These numbers were evidently suggested by those of our Saviour and his followers.

^g On March 29, 1393, this School, or, as it is generally termed, College, which had also been six years in building, was opened for the reception of the Society, who were to compose its inhabitants, and who consisted of a Warden, seventy Scholars, ten secular Priests, (perpetual Fellows,) three Priests' Chaplains, three Clerks, and sixteen Choristers, with a first and second Master.

ceived his education. From this School, which, as we have before observed, was founded as a preparatory seminary, all the members of the Oxford Society were to be chosen ^h. For Wykeham's design was of the most comprehensive kind. It received the object of its bounty while yet mere infants; and, after instilling into their tender minds the rudiments of a liberal education, it gradually introduced them to the more advanced parts of learning and science, and ultimately sent them forth into a world which their acquirements would peculiarly fit them to enlighten and to adorn. To the original formation of a design so comprehensive, so truly magnificent, a mind of singular capacity and illumination could alone have been adequate; the due adjustment of all the parts of the design, the organization of the two Societies, and the drawing up of statutes for the government of both, must have required the clearest intellect, aided by sound judgment and profound experience; while, in making due provision for the permanent support of two so numerous bodies, a rare degree of forecast, and an almost boundless liberality of spirit, must have been called into

^h This is annually done, and most commonly in the second week of July, when the Wardens of both Colleges, two Fellows of New College, with the Sub-Warden and the Head Master of Winchester College, meet at Winchester for the purpose of holding the election.

action. And in Wykeham all these endowments and qualifications were concentrated. His was that capacious, that enlightened mind, which, amid the distractions inseparable from the duties of a high political station, could devise and mature the plan of so noble an institution; his the intellect, the judgment, the knowledge of mankind, necessary for digesting a code of laws for the government of that institution; his the liberal, the munificent spirit, which could complete an endowment for its ample and permanent support. Who is there that can contemplate provision thus made for the education of Britain's sons through the long line of ages to come, and not feel his heart glow with warm and reverential gratitude towards this venerable, this real father of his country? Doubtless he has his reward. And if, as we have perhaps some reason to believe, a part of the felicity of souls in bliss, arises from a perception of the benefits flowing from their deeds of charity, performed while they were invested with the garb of mortality; the beatified spirits of a Wykeham, a Chichele, a Waynflete, and their illustrious compeers in this exalted walk of piety and beneficence, while, bending from their celestial habitations over the abodes of humanity, they contemplate the blessed effects resulting from their earthly labours of love, may feel that even the joys of

Heaven are not wholly unsusceptible of increase.

Beneath the portrait of Wykeham are some of the most curious of those carvings with which the ancient wainscotting that lines the Hall is partially decorated; they are emblematical of the Crucifixion of our Saviour. Besides the portraits already specified, the room contains likenesses of Bishops Lake, Kenn, Bisse, and Lowth; but its most valuable ornament is a painting, said to have proceeded from the school of the Caracci, and formerly placed over the altar of the Chapel; whence it was removed on occasion of the late alterations. This piece, which was presented by Lord Radnor, has considerable merit. Its subject is the Adoration of our Saviour by the Shepherds, after his Nativity. In the several figures, feminine loveliness and grace appear finely contrasted with masculine spirit and dignity.

On the bold windows that give light to the Hall¹, coats armorial, in considerable numbers,

¹ Beneath the Hall are the Grammar and Music schools, which were formerly between the Chapel and the eastern cloister. At the south-eastern end of the Hall is a strong tower, four stories high, each story containing a single room vaulted with stone; in one of which, called the muniment room, are preserved the gloves, the ring, and some ornaments appertaining to the mitre, of the Founder.

glowing in all the vivid and varied tints of heraldic blazonry, offer a charming treat to him who is fond of diving into the mysteries of *or*, *argent*, and *gules* ; but for our own parts, we prefer hastening to the

LIBRARY, which occupies two rooms on the eastern side of the quadrangle. Of these, the lower one is stored with theological works, and the one above it with volumes in other departments of literature. Through various benefactions and legacies, the collection, both printed and in MS. is become very extensive. Of the latter, many choice and valuable ones are here repositied.

Through a passage in the north-eastern angle of the square, we next proceed to the CLOISTERS, which range around a square area of considerable size. They are canopied by a ribbed chesnut roof, and, being wholly appropriated as places of interment, wear a very solemn and funereal appearance. Thick grass, rarely pressed by human footstep, waves in dark luxuriance over the inclosed area. Within the pale of the cloister, the frequently occurring memorials of departed Wykehamists, whose ashes rest beneath the consecrated pavement, excite in the mind of the pensive stranger a train of contemplations strictly in unison

with those expressed in the following lines of Pope's translation of Homer :

Like leaves on trees the race of man is found ;
Now green in youth, now withering on the ground.
Another race the following spring supplies ;
They fall successive, and successive rise.
So generations in their course decay ;
So flourish these, when those are passed away.

At the north-eastern corner of the cloisters rises a plain, but lofty and substantial square tower, embattled, and furnished with an exploratory turret at one of its angles^k. During the residence of Charles I. at Oxford, this tower was converted into a magazine for ammunition. The cloister was also put to the same use, and on the same occasion, an apprehended attack by the parliamentary troops. In 1651 some of the College edifices sustained much injury from a Colonel Draper, who commanding for the Parliament, and fearing a visit from Charles II. made holes in the walls of the cloister^l and gates, and committed other dilapidations, in an attempt to fortify the College.

^k Of this tower, (in which are ten fine-toned bells,) and indeed of the whole northern range of the College edifices, a very grand and striking view may be obtained from the court yards attached to many of the houses on the southern side of Holywell Street. So impressively fine indeed is this view, that the visitor of Oxford should on no account omit to enjoy it.

^l These cloisters afford a very fine echo.





INTERIOR OF NEW COLLEGE CHAPEL.

A door on the northern side of the passage, through which the cloisters are entered, now offers itself to admit us into the CHAPEL, or rather into the ante-chapel; in which, however, we would counsel our stranger not to dwell at present, but, entering the choir, to accompany us straight to the altar, and there commence a particular examination of the architectural and other beauties for which this splendid place of worship is so greatly and so deservedly celebrated.

On an elevation ascended by several steps, which, as well as the elevation, are entirely covered with crimson velvet, stands the altar itself, composed of dove coloured marble, and extending to the length of twelve feet. The altar-piece, in which term is included the whole eastern end of the Chapel, is divided horizontally into five portions; four of which comprise an equal number of tiers of canopied niches, wrought with all the decorative richness peculiar to the florid English style. The fifth portion, immediately above the altar, is filled with sculptures of almost unrivalled delicacy, executed in white marble by the classical chisel of Westmacott. The subjects of these sculptures, five in number, are the *Salutation of the Blessed Virgin*; the *Nativity*; the *Descent from the Cross*; the *Resurrection*; and the *Ascension of the Blessed Redeemer*. Where all are confessedly

excellent, selection is difficult, and may almost seem invidious ; but one of the subjects is of a beauty so exquisite, that we cannot refuse ourselves the pleasure of transcribing, from the Beauties of England, Mr. Brewer's just and elegant description. " Perhaps," says that gentleman, " the *Descent from the Cross* is the most conspicuous " for merit : every limb of the crucified Saviour " is affectingly dead ; and female grief does, indeed, appear piercingly beautiful in the blended " grace and misery described in the figure of " Mary. An attitude so swelling and energetic, " yet so entirely devoid of theatrical parade, has " seldom been witnessed in the performances of a " modern sculptor ^m."

In a press opposite to the northern end of the altar, the crosierⁿ of the Founder is repositied, and duly preserved with pious care ; having inspected which, our stranger will do well to station himself in front of the altar, and thence take a

^m Beauties of Oxfordshire, page 183. Being thus incidentally led to quote from this extensive work, we cannot forbear an expression of our surprise and regret, that the proprietors should have suffered one of their last volumes to be made a vehicle for Unitarian attacks on the clergy of the established church.

ⁿ The workmanship of this venerable relic is of the most elaborate description, chiefly imitative of the rich and varied ornaments with which the ecclesiastical structures of that era were so lavishly adorned. The material is silver, gilt ; within the incurvature of the head is a figure of Wykeham kneeling.

view of the whole interior of the Chapel, which, seen from this point, affords an impressively gratifying display of the peculiar beauties of the English style at its most florid era. No architectural solecism offends the eye; but the roof, the windows, the stalls and desks, the pavement, the organ loft, and the organ itself, all unite to form one rich and captivating whole; and, while they constitute an honourable monument to the genius and abilities of the artist by whom they were designed, afford also a striking proof how far, how very far inferior to the characteristic graces of the English style, are all the prettinesses of classical architecture, when applied to the decoration of ecclesiastical structures.

The groinings of the roof are far from complex: they spring in triads from consoles placed between each window; and the two outer ones diverging laterally, are continued to a rib, which runs along the centre of the arched roof, from one end of the Chapel to the other. The stalls reflect high credit on the taste of the restorer. The canopies in particular are beautifully wrought; and the airy lightness of their effect is much increased by the long line of crocketed pinnacles, by which, at regular intervals, they are adorned. The pavement is composed of black and white marble, intermixed with squares of an ash coloured stone.

The organ gallery and its supports are, as well as the instrument itself, in a style of strict accordance with the other parts of the interior; but they are of a richness that almost precludes description. The front of the instrument presents a central and two lateral divisions; the former wholly occupied by one large pointed arch, which, by a happy thought, has been left entirely open, in order to admit a view of the principal subject in the paintings of the great western window. The divisions on each side of this opening are fronted by rows of ornamental gilt pipes, and surmounted by exquisitely wrought turrets of an octagonal form, terminating spirally, and studded with crockets. Every morning at eight o'clock, and every evening at six, this noble instrument breathes forth its own harmony to accompany that of an unusually numerous and well-instructed choir.

But the windows of this magnificent Chapel (all of which are filled with painted glass, the production of different and very distant periods) constitute, perhaps, the chief source of attraction to its visitors. The paintings in the windows on the northern side of the choir were executed by Pechitt of York. They represent the *Redeemer*, the *Virgin Mary*, the *twelve Apostles*, the chief Patriarchs of the Old Testament, and twelve of

the Prophets, and are certainly not wholly devoid of merit, although, unfortunately for them, the circumstance of being placed opposite to a series of paintings, to which they are manifestly and greatly inferior, commonly prevents that merit from being allowed, or even perceived. The latter indeed, in both design and execution, may vie with most of the paintings on glass now to be seen in England. Were it not for the transcendent merit of *one other window*, which the Chapel can boast, they would be even more admired than they now deservedly are. They were executed abroad by a Flemish artist, and, as is reported, from designs given by certain of the scholars of Rubens. Having come into the possession of Price junior, (by whom some injuries which had been sustained were repaired,) they were by him transferred to the Society of this College, who, in the year 1740, caused them to be set up in their present situations, under Price's superintendence. Eight spirited, well drawn figures of Saints, Martyrs, &c. clothed in drapery of the richest and most vivid hues, and accompanied by various symbolical delineations, are contained in each of these windows, which, four in number, constitute the range on the southern side of the Chapel.

Re-entering the spacious ante-chapel, we find

ourselves opposite to the great western window, the paintings in which are generally, and, we doubt not, justly, ranked among the very finest specimens of the art of glass-painting. From the united talents of a Reynolds and a Jervais, nothing less than excellence could indeed have been looked for; but in this performance all probable anticipation must have been outgone. It was a work affording demonstrative evidence, that, far from being lost, the delightful art of painting on glass was then possessed, in never equalled perfection, in Britain. Even Thomas Warton, whose habitual veneration for antiquity ever disposed him to regard the works of ancient days with partial admiration, did ample homage to the wonderful combination of genius and skill displayed in the work before us. In verses, which, for their elegance of structure and fidelity of description, we have quoted in the subjoined note^o, he has imperish-

° ————— I view thy chaste design,
 The just proportion, and the genuine line;
 Those native portraitures of Attic art,
 That from the lucid surface seem to start;
 Those tints, that steal no glories from the day,
 Nor ask the sun to lend his streaming ray:
 The doubtful radiance of contending dyes,
 That faintly mingle, yet distinctly rise;
 'Twixt light and shade the transitory strife;
 The feature blooming with immortal life:
 The stole in casual foldings taught to flow,
 Not with ambitious ornaments to glow;

ably recorded his conviction of its unrivalled excellence.

Although fully sensible of the impossibility of conveying by description any adequate idea of the beauty of this celebrated window, we shall, at least, attempt to give some notion of the subjects and disposition of the paintings. The shape of the window is of course pointed, its breadth considerable, and its height in proportion. The paintings chiefly occupy one large compartment in the centre, and seven of less size in the lower division

The tread majestic, and the beaming eye,
That lifted speaks its commerce with the sky ;
Heaven's golden emanation, gleaming mild
O'er the mean cradle of the Virgin's child.

• • • • •

Lo, from the canvas Beauty shifts her throne,
Lo, Picture's powers a new formation own !
Behold, she prints upon the crystal plain,
With her own energy, th' expressive stain !
The mighty master spreads his mimic toil
More wide, nor only blends the breathing oil ;
But calls the lineaments of life complete
From genial alchymy's creative heat ;
Obedient forms to the bright fusion gives,
While in the warm enamel Nature lives.

Reynolds, 'tis thine, from the broad window's height,
To add new lustre to religious light :
Not of its pomp to strip this ancient shrine,
But bid that pomp with purer radiance shine :
With arts unknown before, to reconcile
The willing Graces to the Gothic pile.

of the window. In the latter, each of which is twelve feet high, and about three feet wide, the Cardinal and Christian virtues are allegorically represented by six single female figures, and a central group. *Temperance* is depicted gracefully pouring water from a large vessel into a smaller one. *Fortitude* is represented in armour, her attitude erect, her countenance steady, her demeanour resolute; her hand resting on a still upright, although broken column, and at her feet the symbolical lion couchant. *Faith*, bearing a cross, stands firmly on both feet, and, with a countenance irradiated by celestial expression, gazes on that heaven, towards which *Hope*, on the opposite side of the central group, appears eagerly springing forward. *Justice* is portrayed with a sword in her right hand, looking stedfastly through the shade thrown across her face by the arm in which she holds the balance, for which, deviating, and we think injudiciously, from all precedent, the artist has introduced a steelyard. *Prudence* displays, in an arrow and a remora on her right arm, the emblems of speed and delay, from the extremes of which she is supposed to be equally removed. Her mirror, by reflecting the actions of others, enables her to regulate her own. The group representing *Charity* is, as we have before said, placed in the central compartment of the lower division of the window. As usual, the figures

composing the group are a female, supporting in her arms an infant, and an attendant boy and girl. In the countenance of the principal figure maternal love is sweetly and affectingly expressed, while the eager and almost impetuous claim of the boy upon his mother's attention is nicely and discriminatingly contrasted with the seemingly mild entreaty of his gentle sister.

But these figures, beautiful and attractive as they are, are merely adjuncts to the principal design, which occupies the central portion of the window. Here, in a space eighteen feet high by twelve feet wide, the *Nativity of the Blessed Saviour* is represented, with a felicity of combination, a fidelity of expression, and a tempered warmth of colouring, calculated to enhance the fame of even a Reynolds, who in this instance has also fortunately met with the co-operation of kindred talent. Following the example of Correggio, in his celebrated "*Notte*," the artist has judiciously chosen to represent his light as emanating from the body of the infant Jesus; who, lying in the manger, occupies the central place in a group of thirteen human figures. The radiance of this light is beyond the power of description: it renders the figures nearest the centre perfectly ethereal, and tips the more prominent parts of the distant figures with a lustre scarcely conceivable.

Near the Saviour is an exquisitely lovely cherub face, belonging to one of a company of celestials grouped around the Heavenly Babe. Above, in the clouds, an angel is introduced contemplating the mysteries of the Redemption; to illustrate which the original Greek of the text, "*Mysteries which the angels themselves desire to look into,*" is inscribed on a neighbouring scroll. On the left of the principal group, in the persons of two adoring shepherds, portraits are introduced of Sir Joshua and his ingenious coadjutor Mr. Jervais. Both are esteemed striking likenesses; but the former, in order, no doubt, that his full face might be presented to the beholder, is portrayed under the awkward circumstances of averting his countenance from the object of his adoration, towards which his body is nevertheless advanced in a kneeling posture^p.

Previously to quitting the subject of the splendid work of which we have thus ventured imperfectly

^p In the month of November, 1816, a fire broke out at Belvoir castle, the seat of the Duke of Rutland, and destroyed nearly the whole ancient part of the structure, in which, among many other exquisite productions of the pencil, was the original picture by Sir Joshua Reynolds, from whence Jervais executed this celebrated window. Besides the Nativity, for which the late Duke gave Sir Joshua 1200 guineas, the following paintings, by the same artist, were most unfortunately consumed; the Infant Jupiter, an Old Man reading a Ballad, and the Calling of Samuel.

to sketch a description, we would make one additional remark, although it will sound like censure; namely, that the seven figures in the inferior section of the window being of so large a size, so near the beholder, and withal so beautiful, attract to themselves a much greater share of notice and admiration, than, considering them merely as subordinate appendages to the main design, is justly their due. We cannot, therefore, help thinking it a circumstance to be regretted, that the original intention of disposing them in other windows of the fabric, was ever abandoned for Sir Joshua's scheme, (just as is the idea on which that scheme was founded,) of making the four Cardinal virtues and the three Christian graces "a proper rustic base or foundation for the Christian religion."

The remaining windows of the ante-chapel are generally supposed to be of equal antiquity with the structure itself. They are chiefly occupied by portraits of patriarchs, prophets, saints, &c. but although, in several instances, the colours appear to retain a considerable portion of their original brilliancy, yet from the general badness of the drawing, and a total absence of the relief produced by a proper distribution of light and shade, the effect of the paintings in these windows is confused and unpleasing.

The lofty roof of the ante-chapel is supported, in the middle, by two "staff-moulded pillars" of delicately slender proportions; which, with the monuments, in considerable number, of departed Wykehamists, are the only remaining objects within this celebrated edifice that seem to demand from us particular mention. But we cannot take our final leave of the Chapel, without offering, what will not, we trust, be deemed an inappropriate conclusion to our description of its present appearance, a few brief notices of its former state. As might be inferred from the taste displayed by Wykeham in that part of the cathedral of Winchester erected under his auspices, the Chapel of his College exhibited in its architecture, its furniture, and its decorations, every degree of splendour, that the finest skill, the most exalted piety, and the most unlimited munificence could possibly bestow. The high altar was adorned by a series of niches, filled, it is thought, with images of gold and silver; the ground colour of the niches being of a deep ultramarine blue, and their exterior edges richly gilt. In this state of magnificence the Chapel continued, till about the year 1550, when the images were taken away, and the fine painted windows ordered by King Edward's visitors to be taken down. The latter command was not, however, at that time enforced, the plea of inability to set up new ones being successfully

urged by the College; but the niches were filled up, and barbarously plastered over. About the year 1696, new stalls and desks were put up, and the wainscot was ornamented with paintings of Apostles, Saints, &c.¹ a screen was erected, and sundry other alterations made. In 1695, the vile coating of plaster was removed from the eastern end, and one Henry Cook was employed to ornament the altar with his pencil. This he did by representing "the concave of a semi-rotunda," in which the Chapel appeared to terminate on the east. In the centre was the Salutation of the Virgin Mary, and over the communion table the picture, from the School of the Caracci, mentioned in our account of the Hall. In 1789, the decayed state of the roof having caused the Society to order a thorough repair of the Chapel, some of the beautiful niches of the eastern end were fortunately discovered; on which Mr. Wyatt was employed to restore as nearly as possible the wall to a resemblance of what it was in the time of the Founder.

¹ Three of these paintings, on panel, are now in the porter's lodge.

Fourth Day's Walk.

FOR our *Fourth Day's Walk* we have reserved the four remaining Colleges of PEMBROKE, MERTON, CORPUS CHRISTI, and CHRIST CHURCH.

At the distance of about one hundred yards to the southward of Carfax, a short and very retired street, diverging westward from St. Aldate's, or, as it is vulgarly termed, St. Old's, leads to

PEMBROKE COLLEGE,

which stands on the southern side of the short street in question, nearly opposite to the parochial church of St. Aldate.

The exterior of this College, although quite plain, has a peculiarly neat and clean appearance. Adjoining to it on the northward is a handsome modern dwelling of stone, built in 1695 as a lodge for the Master; and which, although it has not a single architectural feature in common with the structure to which it is an appendage, forms a pleasing termination to the street by which we approach the College from the east.



For the Walker in Oxford. Published by J. P. Thompson, High Street, 1871.

CHRIST CHURCH COLLEGE, THE TOWN HALL &c. FROM CARFAX.

Engraved by G. H. Thompson, at Drawing, by G. H. Thompson.



A plain gateway, opening beneath a low tower, leads into the quadrangle, which is of very limited extent, but is surrounded by good and uniform buildings. At the north-western corner is the entrance to the HALL, a handsome and sufficiently spacious room^a, which, in consequence of an addition made to it by Dr. Clayton, the first Master, assumes the rather singular form of a Roman T. Within the room are some fine portraits, and an excellent bust, by Bacon, of Dr. Johnson; the latter presented by Samuel Whitbread, Esq. father of the late Mr. Whitbread, of political notoriety. The portraits represent Thomas Tesdale, Esq. and the Rev. Richard Wightwick, Founders of the College; King Charles I. Bishop Morley, Lord Ossulston, Bishop Hall, &c.

Thomas Tesdale, Esq. was born in 1547, at Standford Dingley, in Berkshire. He received his education at the grammar school of Abingdon, a seminary at which many eminent characters have imbibed the rudiments of learning. He afterwards followed the business of a malster, and, becoming opulent, filled in succession the chief offices in the magistracy of his native borough, of which he was chosen Mayor in the year 1581. Some time after

^a This room was the refectory of Broadgates Hall, a very ancient seminary, chiefly frequented by students of the civil and canon law.

this, he removed to Glympton, near Woodstock, in this county, where, in 1610, he died; having through life worthily maintained the character of an honest, benevolent, and pious man. His remains were interred in the chancel of Glympton church, beneath a costly monument, which, in the year 1704, was repaired at the expence of this College.

Mr. Tesdale bequeathed 5000*l*. for the purpose of buying estates, the rents of which were to be applied in maintaining, at some College in Oxford, certain Fellows and Scholars from the free-school of Abingdon. Balliol College was first selected for this additional foundation, and a sum of money, with which the lodgings called Cæsar's were built, had actually been advanced to that Society; when a new benefactor coming forward in the person of the Rev. Richard Wightwick, D. D. the Corporation of Abingdon were induced to depart from their original intention, and found a new College. This gentleman who had been of Balliol, and was afterwards Rector of East Ilsley in Berkshire, engaged to convey certain estates in aid of the endowment; upon which, the before-mentioned Corporation, having fixed upon Broadgates Hall as the site of their projected establishment, petitioned King James I. to found within the said Hall a College for the

usual studies, and which should possess the usual powers of receiving and holding estates for the maintenance of the Society. In compliance with this petition, his Majesty, on the 22d of June, 1624, issued his letters patent, constituting within the Hall, formerly termed Broadgates Hall, a perpetual College of divinity, law, medicine, &c. to consist of a Master or Governor, ten Fellows, and ten Scholars, more or less, as the statutes might afterwards direct, and to be styled, *The Master, Fellows, and Scholars of the College of Pembroke, in the University of Oxford, of the foundation of King James, at the cost and charges of Thomas Tesdale and Richard Wightwick*^b. The name of Pembroke seems to have been bestowed in compliment to the Earl of Pembroke, who was at that time Chancellor of the University, and is said to have interested himself warmly in favour of the new College. In the peculiar phraseology of the day, while the King was denominated *Founder*, the Earl of Pembroke was styled

^b By the statutes, four of Tesdale's seven Fellows were to be of his kindred, as were also two of his six Scholars. Of Wightwick's three Fellows and four Scholars, two of each were to be of his kindred. These restrictions, which appear to be absolute, are much to be regretted. They greatly limit the usefulness of the institution. On our own visit to the College, in the month of March, 1816, we were informed, that, for want of claimants on the score of kindred, several of the Fellowships and Scholarships were then vacant.

Godfather, and Tesdale and Wightwick Foster-fathers of the College^c.

The bust of Johnson is considered to present a good likeness of the sage. It will be contemplated with emotion by all who are disposed to reverence superior talents and superior virtues. Samuel Johnson was entered a Commoner of Pembroke, October 31, 1738, being then nineteen years of age. He had been at the University little more than three years, when the utter ruin of his father's affairs causing the scanty remittances on which he had previously contrived to subsist, and prosecute his studies, to be wholly withdrawn, he was under the painful necessity of quitting College without taking a degree. At a future period, however, that of Master of Arts was conferred on him, in a way equally gratifying to his feelings, and honourable to the University. His apartment while at this College was on the second floor over the gateway; a room which will be contemplated with enthusiasm by every lover of sound learning, every admirer of elegant literature, and every well-informed member of the national church.

The LIBRARY, now over the Hall, was formerly kept in a room (anciently a civil law school) over

^c Chalmers's History of Oxford, p. 241.

the south aisle of St. Aldate's church; whence, in 1709, on the occasion of Dr. Hall's liberal bequest of his own private collection, the books were removed to their present situation.

The only building which the second or garden court of Pembroke College offers to our particular notice is the CHAPEL, a small and unostentatious, but yet elegant modern edifice. Four well-proportioned windows, with semicircular heads, range along the northern front of the structure, in which is also a handsome doorway. Between each of the former is an Ionic pilaster, supporting an entablature, and a low blank attic, which nearly conceals the finely-arched roof. In the interior, we find the usual division into chapel and ante-chapel, and are surprised by a richness of decoration, which the simplicity of the exterior would scarcely have led us to anticipate. A painting over the altar has considerable merit. It is a copy (by Cranke, of Antwerp) of a picture of our Saviour after his Resurrection^d. The excellence of the drawing, and the conformity of the colouring to nature, render this, although but a copy, a very estimable picture. Previously to the building of their Chapel, which was consecrated

^d The original was painted by Rubens, and is preserved in the cathedral of that city.

in 1732, the Society of this College met for divine worship in the south aisle of St. Aldate's church.

In addition to those already noticed, the College buildings embrace two detached edifices, west of the Master's residence. Part of one of these, which is on our right hand as we go into the Fellows' garden, was formerly called Durham Hall, east of which was Mignott or Mine Hall, now, as well as the former, occupied as chambers.

Returning into St. Aldate's, our way next lies along Bear lane, into St. Mary's Hall lane, and round the south-western corner of Oriel College into King Street, about half way along which, and on the southern side, stands

MERTON COLLEGE,

the line of front belonging to which is ennobled by the southern face of the Chapel, one of the most august edifices within the limits of the University. Only the more westerly portion, however, of this line of front can in strictness be considered as belonging to the College; and that portion is a very irregular pile. With the exception of the gateway tower, which has braved the storms of four centuries, this portion of the front, as well as nearly the whole quadrangle of which it forms

a part, was built in 1589, by the celebrated mathematician Bishop Thomas Rodburne*. The sculptures with which the tower was originally adorned received great damage during the Usurpation. They consist of a representation of the chief incidents in the life of St. John the Baptist, and of statues of King Henry III. and Walter de Merton, the Founder; the historical sculpture being on a tablet, and each of the statues under a highly enriched canopy. In 1682, these interesting embellishments were, according to Wood, "repaired and newly oiled over in white colours."

Advancing through the gateway into the first court, the visitor, who may have previously heard Merton College described as a very extensive and opulent foundation, would feel something like disappointment, on surveying the limited extent of the court, its want of uniformity, and the general homeliness of its buildings, did not the eastern window of the Chapel, presenting itself immediately on his entrance, arrest and engross his at-

* "Of the Warden's lodgings, however, some portion is thought to be coeval with the foundation of the College. A building with Gothic windows over the kitchen, and the gallery over the Warden's apartments, are also evidently of equal antiquity with the foundation: but it is not so clear to what purposes they were applied. The former was most probably the Founder's private chapel, as it still retains the chapel proportions." Chalmers, p. 10.

tention. A more exquisite specimen of fine taste in design, and of skill in execution, is not exhibited by any of the numerous ornamental windows with which the more ancient ecclesiastical structures of Oxford are furnished. Were not its height rather below the proportion demanded by its breadth, it would scarcely, we conceive, be excelled in beauty by any window in the kingdom. Munnions divide it into seven lights, each light terminating in an enriched cinque-foil, surmounted by a crocketed pyramidical canopy. The tracery in the head of the window is extremely elaborate, and includes, in its centre, a delicately wrought wheel of St. Catherine. On each side of the window, which occupies nearly the whole breadth of the western extremity of the Chapel, are deeply-projecting buttresses of three gradations, supporting the angles of the edifice, and having their upper divisions enriched with pyramidal headed double niches, beneath a trefoil. Over the point of the window arch is also an enriched trefoil, sculptured within a triangular compartment. The pointed windows, ornamented with munnions and tracery, are exhibited by a low building adjoining to the Chapel on the south, and give light to the old vestry, in which are still to be seen many fragments of painted glass, destroyed in times of public turbulence, or by the ignorance of repairers and the inattention of their employers.

In the inner or garden court^b, (which is entered through a large and finely-groined gateway,) a very spacious, handsome, and uniform quadrangle presents itself; the buildings of which, three stories in height, and embattled, are constructed in the style common to most of the older quadrangles; the windows being composed alternately of double and triple lights. The ornamented centre of the southern side of this quadrangle has considerable richness of effect; but offends against the principles of correct taste, by a union of classic embellishments with those peculiar to the style in which the other parts of the quadrangle are executed. Corinthian, Doric, Ionic, and Tuscan columns successively present themselves as the eye is directed from the base to the summit of the elevation, through the lower part of which a gateway opens into the garden. The latter is well laid out, and is partly bounded by the city wall, on which is formed a terrace, that affords a very charming view of rich meadow scenery, and of the gently elevated tract of land to the eastward of the city.

In the third or small court we find the LIBRARY, a structure not to be lightly passed over by the venerator of antiquity. It is supposed to be the oldest Library in the kingdom, having been

^b Built, or rather completed, in 1610.

founded in 1376, by William Rede, Bishop of Chichester. It occupies nearly the whole of the southern and western sides of the court, which is thought to be coeval with it. The architecture of this Library is strikingly indicative of its venerable antiquity. Light is admitted into the building by two ranges of windows; the upper ones triple and projecting; the lower single, extremely narrow, and sharply pointed. Both contain the arms of benefactors, &c. in painted glass. The roof is of timber, wrought in angular compartments. At one end of the room, the wainscoting is curiously carved in small architectural figures. Although Bishop Rede is stated to have been the first contributor of books to this Library, yet, according to a MS. of Anthony a Wood, preserved in the Bodleian, the following were in the possession of Merton College before the year 1300: A *Scholastic History*, valued at 20s. A *Concordance*, 10s. *The four greater Prophets, with glosses*, 5s. *Liber Anselmi, cum questionibus Thomæ de Malo*, 12s. *Quodlibetæ H. Gandavensis, et S. Thomæ Aquinatis*, 10s. A *Psalter, with glosses*, 10s. *Saint Austin on Genesis*, 10s. Many valuable MSS. of which, at the period of the Reformation, the Library was plundered, have been irrecoverably lost; others, which had fallen into private hands, have been presented to the Bodleian; yet still, through the liberal donations of a succession of grateful members of the

Society, the collection of volumes has been gradually augmented into considerable magnitude and value.

The HALL, to which we ascend by a flight of steps, is entered by an ancient and very curious door, over almost every part of which extend the fanciful ramifications of its hinges, a mode of decoration much in vogue before pannelling became common. This Hall has not unfrequently been honoured by the presence of royalty^c. Queen Catherine of Arragon, and Queen Elizabeth, were both entertained at dinner in it; the former in 1518, the latter in 1592. Its chief ornament is a large historico-allegorical painting, at the lower end of the room. The principal figure in this piece is the Founder; who is represented in full episcopal costume, seated, and pointing to a view of his College. Other figures are introduced to complete an allegorical delineation of the triumph of sound learning over superstition and bigotry. This finely-imagined picture was executed and pre-

^c On the occasion of royal visits, it was usual for the King to reside at Christ Church, and the Queen at Merton. When, in 1814, the Emperor of Russia, with the King and Princes of Prussia, &c. paid a visit to the land which, as the former, on the moment of his first touching her soil, emphatically observed, had "saved them all," they were induced to visit also the University of Oxford. On this occasion, the Russian Emperor had apartments at Merton College, the King of Prussia at Corpus Christi College, and our own Prince Regent at Christ Church.

sent to the Society by the late eminent physician, Dr. Wall, of Worcester. Besides this painting, and the armorial bearings in the windows, the Hall is ornamented with portraits of the Founder, of Dr. Barrington, the present Bishop of Durham, and of the late Mr. Justice Rooke. The first of these, Walter de Merton, to whose enlightened beneficence this distinguished foundation (now generally admitted to have been the first College, properly so called, of which either University could boast) originated, was a celebrated prelate and statesman of the thirteenth century. He was the son of William de Merton, Archdeacon of Berks, by Christina, daughter of Walter Fitz-Oliver of Basingstoke; and was born at Merton in Surry; but in what year does not seem to be exactly known. In the Augustinian convent at this place, De Merton was educated. He is also traditionally reported to have studied some time either at Oseney, among the canons regular, or at Manger Hall, in the parish of St. Martin, Oxford. Having passed through several intermediate preferments, he rose, in 1258, to the Chancellorship of the kingdom; which dignified office he also held in 1261, and again in 1274; enjoying at the same time the confidence, and taking a leading part in the counsels, of his sovereign. In 1274 he was consecrated Bishop of Rochester; but only survived his advancement to the prelacy

three years. On the 27th of October, 1277, as he was fording a river in his diocese, he unfortunately fell from his horse, and received so much injury as to be the occasion of his death.

Having early acquired from his mother the manor of St. John, Walter de Merton founded, in 1261, the hospital of St. John, for poor and infirm clergymen; an asylum to which, after the founding of Merton College, the hopelessly diseased members of that Society were, by the statutes, directed to be sent, and the Mastership of which was very early conjoined with the Wardenship of Merton.

Actuated by a very natural attachment to the place of his birth, and the scene of his early studies, Walter de Merton, it seems, at first thought of endowing the convent of Merton with considerable revenues, for the perpetual maintenance of scholastic divines. But on more mature reflection he altered his design; and, in 1264, founded, on the neighbouring manor of Maldon, a separate College, intended as a seminary for his more extended institution at Oxford; the buildings of which, having previously completed the necessary purchases of a site, &c. he had by this time begun to erect.

By a charter, dated January 7, 1264, the Col-

lege at Oxford was named *Domus Scholarium de Merton*. In 1274, the whole establishment at Maldon was removed to Oxford; the institution at which had, in the mean time, received a second charter^d, confirming the provisions in the first, making great additions to the endowment, and increasing the number of Scholars. By a third charter, granted in 1274, in confirmation and completion of the two preceding ones, the statutory allowance to Scholars was fixed at fifty shillings per annum for all necessities! Even in the year 1535, the small sum of 4*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* constituted the average allowance!

Before we accompany the tourist to the Chapel, it will be necessary to mention another benefactor, through whose bounty a second foundation has been grafted on the original one. In the year

^d In this charter, which, with those of 1264 and 1270, is still preserved among the archives of the College, the term *Fratres* was applied to the members of the institution.

When Hugh de Balsham, Bishop of Ely, was contemplating the establishment of St. Peter's College, the first in the sister University, the King recommended the constitution of Merton College, the foundation of which had been completed some time before, as a model for De Balsham's imitation. Merton College has been said to have afforded a precedent for almost every collegiate appendage, as well as a model for the constitution of Colleges themselves. Not only was the first Library established here, but here was also the first Common-room fitted up. *Common-rooms*, or, as the Cantabrigians term them, *Combination-rooms*, were unknown in either University till the year 1661.

1380, John Willyott, Chancellor of Exeter, gave certain lands and tenements for the support of a number of Exhibitioners, afterwards called *Portionistæ*, or Postmasters. These, on the building of the Chapel, officiated as choristers, receiving for the service 6s. 4d. each per annum. Their residence was at first in a Hall^e opposite to the College, and belonging to it; but about the year 1600 they were received into College. Succeeding benefactors have added both to their numbers, and to their allowance.

Return we now into King Street, for the purpose of obtaining an exterior view of the CHAPEL, which is also the parochial church of St. John the Baptist. The best station for viewing it is at the foot of Magpie Lane, when we have immediately in front the northern end of the transept, enriched with pinnacles, niches, &c. and displaying a window of more than ordinary magnitude and beauty. Built about the year 1400, when the English style of architecture had been matured, this fine ecclesiastical structure displays in its several parts most of the ornaments characteristic of that style^f. That it was originally intended

^e It is not unworthy of remark, that in this Hall, which was also the birth place of Anthony a Wood, Lord Colepepper and others of his Majesty's Privy Council resided in 1642.

^f For some additional particulars relative to this edifice, the reader is referred to our description of the city churches.

to assume the form of a cross might be inferred from its present appearance, even were we not so informed by Wood; who asserts that the nave was intended to reach as far as Corpus Christi quadrangle. The same writer also remarks, that the ante-chapel was "originally much larger, as " appears by examining the outside of the church " towards the west, and the arches filled up, which " once stood within, and made part of, the nave." In its present state the edifice consists of a choir, north and south transepts, and a tower. The latter, rising from the intersection of the transepts with the choir, is a truly noble appendage to the fabric, and contributes a principal feature to the superb appearance which Oxford makes from a distance. Its proportions are in complete harmony with those of the church itself, as originally planned; and its ornamental details are equally appropriate to the embellishments which have been bestowed on other parts of the structure. The upper part, in particular, has all the lightness and elegance of effect, resulting from a combination of large windows enriched with tracery, battlements delicately pierced with open work, and lofty pinnacles studded with crockets.

The choir is lighted by fifteen windows, seven on each side, and one towards the east. Much of the beauty of those which range along the

northern front of the choir is concealed by shrubs that vegetate most luxuriantly in a narrow strip of ground interposed between this part of the church and the street. Between the windows are deep graduated buttresses, from the upper part of which project fantastically sculptured figures.

The transepts are lighted by numerous windows, several of which, particularly the great northern one already mentioned, and that at the opposite end of the southern transept, are of superior elegance, as well as of more than common magnitude. Of these transepts, the northern is set apart as a burial place for the parishioners, the southern for members of the Society; both together are usually denominated the ante-chapel, which, like most of those attached to Colleges of early foundation, is remarkable for the number of its sepulchral memorials. Entering it by a door beneath the great northern window, and passing through the archway of the screen, the whole interior of the choir opens upon us with a splendour so captivating, as to leave us but little inclined to remark with severity on the incongruity of style observable in the modern screen, wainscotting, and seats. The lengthened perspective, the chequered pavement, the long line of lateral windows glowing in warm and varied tints, and the great eastern window, preeminently rich in architectural and pic-

torial beauty, by turns attract the delighted gaze. Portraits of saints, martyrs, &c. brilliantly coloured, fill the windows on each side; that on the east is furnished with paintings of a yet superior order, consisting of a series of scriptural delineations, executed in 1700, by Price. The expence of the latter, as well as that of the present wainscotting, pavement, and seats, was defrayed by Alexander Fisher, some time Fellow of the College. On the backs of the ancient stalls were paintings of the age of Henry VII. representing prophets, apostles, saints, &c. The altar was originally ornamented with rich hangings, but these were sacrilegiously taken down by one of the Parliamentary visitors, and applied to the decoration of the fanatical plunderer's own bed-chamber. The altar piece, which represents the *Crucifixion*, and is supposed to be an original, by Tintoretto, was presented a few years ago by John Skip, Esq. a Gentleman Commoner of Merton.

Beneath the northern wall of the choir, near the altar, rest the honoured remains of Sir Thomas Bodley; which were here deposited, with great pomp and solemnity, on the 27th of March 1613. Among other monuments in the Chapel, are those of Sir Henry Savile, and Henry Briggs, the latter of great mathematical celebrity, and first Savilian professor here. In the ante-chapel is a monu-

mental cross, esteemed by the late editor of Camden one of the very finest in England. "The flowered shaft rests on a tabernacle inclosing the Holy Lamb; and under the two steps is a scroll inscribed with the names of the two persons whom it commemorates, *Johannes Bloxham* and *Johannes Whytton*." Of only one other monument can we stop to make particular mention; but that is one which, although of very unobtrusive exterior, will not be regarded with indifference by any who feel an interest in the history and antiquities of this Athens of the West. It indicates the place where repose the ashes of Anthony a Wood, to whose memory it bears this simple inscription, *Antonius a Wood, Antiquarius, ob. Nov. 29, 1695*. This singularly diligent antiquary and biographer was born December 6, 1632, in a small house opposite to the front gateway of Merton College. His father, a descendant of the ancient Lancashire family of Woods, was T. Wood, LL. B. of Pembroke College. The son received his early education at the grammar school of Thame, but was afterwards placed at that of New College. In the year 1647 he was admitted Postmaster of Merton College. His peculiar turn of mind developed itself very early, and the

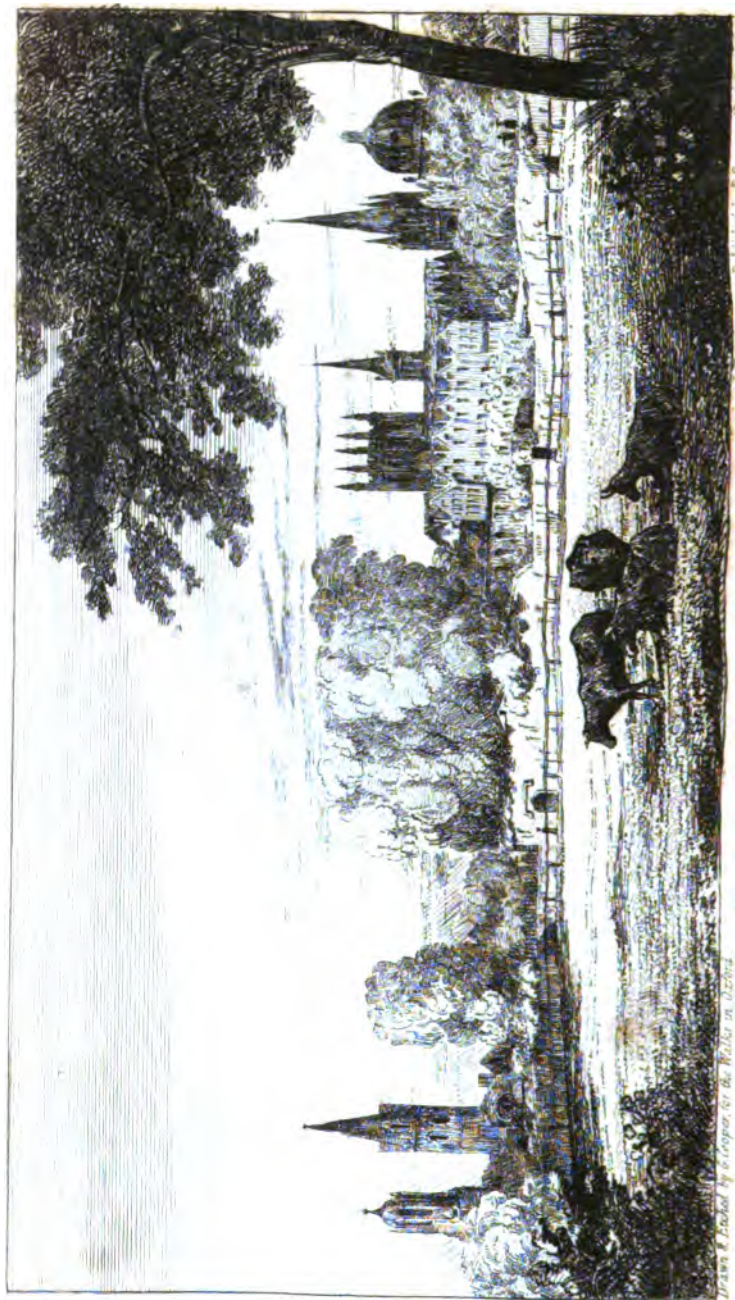
§ Chalmers, p. 18. The original situation of this cross was rather singular, namely, at the bottom of the steps leading up to the altar.

records of the University and City were laid open for his inspection. The fruits of his industrious researches, were those invaluable works the *Athenæ*, and *Historia et Antiquitates Universitatis Oxon.*; together with a large collection of MSS. which he bequeathed to the Ashmolean Museum ^b.

Of the enthusiasm with which he pursued his favourite studies, the following passage, extracted from his life, written by himself, affords a striking illustration. "This summer came to Oxford the *Antiquities of Warwickshire*, &c. written by Will. Dugdale, and adorned with many cuts. This being accounted the best book of the kind, my pen cannot enough describe how A. Wood's tender affections and insatiable desire of knowledge were ravished, and melted down, by the reading of that book. What by music, and rare books that he found in the public library, his life at this time and after was a perfect elysium." That Wood occasionally suffered his own political and religious sentiments, nay, sometimes even mere personal pique, to influence his report of both persons and events, has not unfrequently been alleged; but let us rather hope, that the character given of him by Sir John Peshall, is, on the whole,

^b Among these was a MS. History of the City of Oxford, since published, but, as it is said, defectively, and even incorrectly, by Sir John Peshall.





Engraved by J. Smith del.

MERTON COLLEGE FROM THE FIELDS.

as just, as it is favourable and humane. "He had
"a natural propensity to discover, and an un-
"daunted mind to speak, the truth. He had a
"sincere abhorrence of every thing mean and ser-
"vile; and if he is at any time guilty of misre-
"presenting the characters of others, it is owing
"to his being first deceived himself."

West of the College is MERTON GROVE, whence only can a good view be obtained of the western and southern side of the Chapel, which, with part of the buildings of the small quadrangle, bounds the Grove on the east, as Corpus Christi College does on the west. A foot path, leading from King Street to Christ Church meadow, runs through this Grove, which, although a mere strip of ground, yet, being in grass, and pretty thickly planted with elms, breathes a most agreeable air of retirement. Oft has the writer of these pages seated himself on the low wall beneath the Library windows of Merton College, and after admiring, in turn, the solemn grandeur which marks the whole exterior of the adjoining church, the pleasingly varied ramifications of the eastern window of Corpus Christi College Chapel, the half-seen Chapel of Oriel, and the feathery spire of St. Mary's, partially disclosed at the head of a lane on the north, gradually resigned himself to all the luxury of that local emotion, relative to which Dr. John-

son, in one of the most celebrated passages of his writings, thus eloquently expresses himself:

“ To abstract the mind from all local emotion
“ would be impossible, if it were endeavoured,
“ and would be foolish, if it were possible.
“ Whatever withdraws us from the power of our
“ senses, whatever makes the past, the distant, or
“ the future, predominate over the present, ad-
“ vances us in the dignity of thinking beings.
“ Far from me and from my friends be such frigid
“ philosophy, as would conduct us, indifferent and
“ unmoved, over any ground which has been dig-
“ nified by wisdom, bravery, or virtue. That man
“ is little to be envied, whose patriotism would not
“ gain force upon the plain of Marathon, or whose
“ piety would not grow warmer among the ruins
“ of Iona.” And who but must feel emotion of
such a nature—who but must be sensible of a
generous elevation of soul—when, as he contem-
plates at leisure the magnificence which here sur-
rounds him, he reflects that he is pressing the
same soil, breathing the same air, and admiring
the same objects, which the Hookers, the Chil-
lingworths, the Lowths, and a host of other
learned and pious men, have trodden, breathed,
and admired before! From the soil which has
already proved so fertile, may champions in the
cause of divine truth and order, and successful

labourers in the fields of literature and the sciences, continue to spring up in plenteous succession¹.

¹ Wood mentions among others the following customs, as having formerly obtained at Merton College.

Previously to the Reformation, to which the major part of the Society were so adverse as resolutely to deny the first Protestant Warden admittance into the College, the Fellows were in the habit of assembling round the hall fire, for the purpose of singing hymns on holyday evenings and their vigils, from the vigil of All Saints to the evening of the Purification. At the *Reformation* this custom was abolished as superstitious! Alas! alas! what pity was it, that, in the fever of reforming the *superstitions*, our fathers, in too many instances, shook off also the piety of Roman Catholicism!

Another curious custom which prevailed here was the election of a *King of Christmas*, or *Misrule*. The last of these merry monarchs who held sway over Merton *flourished* in Queen Mary's time. His office was to take cognizance of all misdemeanors committed during the Christmas holydays, and the punishments which he inflicted were sometimes sufficiently ludicrous.

At St. John's College, the Christmas Ruler was styled only Lord; but at Trinity he bore the dignified title of Emperor. Of one of the former the titles have been preserved, and are as follows: *The most magnificent and renowned Thomas, by the favour of fortune, Prince of Alba Fortunata, Lord of St. John's, High Regent of the Hall, Duke of St. Giles, Marquess of Magdalens, Landgrave of the Grove, Count Palatine of the Cloisters, Chief Baylive of Beaumont, High Ruler of Rome*, (a piece of ground so called near the end of the walk called Non Ultra, on the northern side of Oxon.) *Master of the Man or of Walton, Governor of Gloucester Green, sole Commander of all tilts, tournaments, and triumphs, Superintendant in all solemnities whatsoever.*

A third curious observance was that of *Merton Black Night*, as it was called; a species of *diversion* observed when the Dean kept the Bachelors at disputations till twelve at night. It consisted in breaking open the buttery and kitchen doors, rifling them of their

Immediately adjoining on the west to Merton Grove stands

CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE,

the front of which, viewed in perspective from the south-western corner of Magpie lane, certainly possesses considerable beauty, although its *uniformity* is, in some degree, injured, by a large pointed window belonging to the Hall. With this exception, the College presents, towards King Street, a regular embattled elevation* of three stories, the upper one of which is finished with an enriched cornice. Over the gateway, which divides the front into equal portions, rises a square embattled tower, ornamented with a handsome oriel window, and with three very richly canopied niches, one on each side of the oriel, the third above. The qua-

stores, and making merry with the spoil. The origin of this practice is said to have been an unlucky answer made by *Johannes Duns Scotus*, father of the sect of the *Realists*, and at the time Dean of the College, to *Gulielmus Ockham*, father of the *Nominalists*, and then a Bachelor Fellow of the same Society. Ockham, after a hot dispute with the Dean, in which the latter is said to have been worsted, being an inferior, at parting submitted himself, with the rest of the Bachelors, to the Dean, in this form, *Domine quid faciemus?* as it were begging punishment for their boldness and arguing. To whom Scotus unluckily replying, *Ite, et facite quid vultis*, these obstreperous sons of mode and figure are understood to have established a precedent for the spoliations committed in the pantry on *Merton Black Night*. OXONIANA.

* This, with the western side of the court, was rebuilt in 1727. The whole quadrangle has been since cased with stone.

drangle is spacious, uniform, and handsome, possessing also a peculiarly light and cheerful appearance. On its southern side appear, beneath a pediment, an ornamental niche, and a statue of the Founder habited as a prelate.

In the centre of the area is a column which supports a curious cylindrical dial, and exhibits, on its upper part, a perpetual calendar; the whole being surmounted by a pelican, the chosen symbol of the pious Founder. The dial was constructed in 1605, by one of the Fellows, named Charles Turnbull. A manuscript description of it is in the College Library.

In addition to those of this quadrangle, the College buildings comprehend a handsome modern pile, looking towards Christ Church meadow, and a suite of rooms on the east, adjoining to Merton College Grove. The former, which exhibits no other ornament than four Ionic pilasters supporting a pediment in the centre of the elevation, was built in the year 1706, by Dr. Turner^b,

^b With the mere mention of Dr. Turner's name it is impossible to rest satisfied. He ranks among the most liberal of benefactors. On this College he expended, during his lifetime, very large sums; and, at his death, bequeathed to it 6000*l.* besides a collection of books. Out of the residue of his ample fortune, the Doctor appropriated by will to the charity for the relief of the widows and children of poor clergymen, nearly 20,000*l.*

then President; at whose expence too the adjoining cloister, now used as a burial place, was constructed. The rooms adjoining to Merton Grove were built in the year 1787, for the accommodation of the six Gentlemen Commoners admissible by the statutes.

On the eastern side of the quadrangle is the HALL, a room of excellent proportions, and which, although it has experienced considerable alterations, still, it is thought, retains unaltered its original roof. In 1700 it was wainscotted anew with oak, at which time the armorial bearings were removed from the windows. The walls, however, exhibit various coats of arms; and these, with the roof, and the elegant northern window, are the principal objects of interest which the Hall affords.

The LIBRARY, on the southern side of the court, is more distinguished for its literary stores, than for elegance of interior disposition, or splendour of decoration. The roof is wrought into compartments in a manner similar to that of the Chapel, of which it seems to be a continuation. A screen over the door exhibits the arms of the Founder, Richard Fox; of whom two ancient portraits are also preserved in the room^c. In the Magna Bri-

^c Another portrait of the Founder, painted by Corvus, a Fle-

tannia, this prelate is said to have been born at the town of Grantham in Lincolnshire, an error, which probably originated in his having founded a grammar school there. The real place of his birth was Ropesley, a village four miles to the eastward of Grantham, where, towards the end of the reign of Henry VI. our Founder was born, in a house which, as Wood says, went by the name of Pullock's manor. Whether he was initiated in learned studies at Boston, or at Winchester, appears uncertain; although opinions seem to incline in favour of the former; whence, or from Winton, he was sent to Magdalen College. His stay at this University was but short; the plague breaking out, obliged him to leave Oxford, and repair to Cambridge, where, in Pembroke Hall, (of which he afterwards became President,) he for some time continued his studies. From Cambridge he went to Paris, where he studied the canon law, and had the good fortune to form an acquaintance, which paved the way to all his future greatness. This was with Bishop Morton, then an exile by order of Richard III. Morton's penetration quickly discovered in Fox talents that might render him useful to the Earl of Richmond,

ish artist, portraits of the seven Bishops committed to the Tower by James II. and heads of five of the Apostles, (the latter by Castelfranco,) are in a gallery of recent construction, leading from the President's lodgings to the Chapel.

who was then in Paris, making preparation for his descent upon England. He therefore introduced Fox to the Earl; who, upon the Bishop's recommendation, strengthened by his own perception of the abilities and prudence of the party recommended, entrusted to the latter the important task of negotiating with the French court for those supplies, which Richmond himself could not await. The Earl's confidence was well placed. Fox was completely successful; and, when the overthrow and death of Richard III. had elevated Richmond to the throne, was honoured with a seat in the Privy Council. To this was added the more substantial recompence of two prebendal stalls in the Cathedral of Salisbury. The year 1487 witnessed our Founder's elevation to the prelacy as Bishop of Exeter; to which preferment was joined the custody of the Privy Seal, with a pension of 20*s.* a day, and the Mastership of the Hospital of St. Cross, near Winchester.

About the same time, Fox was made Chief Secretary of State, and shared with his friend Morton, now Archbishop of Canterbury, the entire confidence of the Sovereign. He was sent on several embassies, in all of which he acquitted himself to Henry's entire satisfaction. Honours and wealth now flowed rapidly in upon him. He became in succession Bishop of Bath and Wells, of

Durham, and of Winchester: to the last of these sees he was promoted in the year 1500, in which year he was also elected Chancellor of Cambridge University. In 1491 he was godfather to Prince Henry, afterwards Henry VIII.: and this circumstance is said to have preserved his College, when Wolsey wished to extend Christ Church over the site of its neighbour, Henry VIII. refusing to disturb the foundation of his godfather. In 1498 he was sent into Scotland, to the Court of James IV. and entrusted with his proposals of marriage with Margaret, King Henry's daughter. Bishop Fox warmly recommended this marriage, and thus was instrumental in preparing the way for the union of the two Crowns. After the death of Henry VII. he accompanied that monarch's capricious successor on his famed Gallic expedition; and, in 1515, was one of the Commissioners for the treaty of marriage between Lewis XII. of France and the Princess Mary. But his labours as a statesman were now drawing towards their termination. The young King had found more youthful, and more accommodating counsellors. The star of Wolsey, whom Fox himself introduced to Henry, was becoming lord of the ascendant; and our prelate, after enduring much unmerited neglect, and many mortifications, seceded from public life, and, retiring to Winchester, employed the few remaining

years of his existence in acts of piety and beneficence.

During the last ten years of his life he was deprived of sight; yet continued to perform the duties of his sacred office, even that of preaching, almost to the very last. His residence within his diocese was, in many respects, a public benefit. His charities were almost unlimited; besides which, to the great profit of the tradesmen in the neighbouring city of Winchester, the most enlarged hospitality prevailed at his castle of Wolvesey, where the number of his servants alone is said to have exceeded two hundred. At length, on the 14th of September, 1528, the Bishop, whose last days had been passed in the almost uninterrupted performance of acts of devotion, sunk tranquilly into the arms of death. He was interred within his own cathedral, in a fine chantry, which he had caused to be constructed during his lifetime, for the reception of his remains^d.

Of this Bishop's numerous works of charity, that which it is our peculiar province to record here was the most distinguished. His original intention, with respect to Oxford, appears to have

^d Great part of the eastern end of the cathedral of Winchester was re-edified by this prelate, in a style of rarely equalled magnificence.

been limited to the founding of a College, for a Warden, with a certain number of Monks and secular Scholars, who were to form a nursery for St. Swithin's priory at Winchester; as the existing Colleges of Canterbury and Durham did for the priories of those two cities. On this design the Founder was proceeding, and had actually commenced building, when he was fortunately induced to deviate from his original plan. Hugh Oldham, Bishop of Exeter, who appears to have had a strong presentiment of the approaching downfall of monastic institutions, is said to have brought about this change, by thus addressing our Founder. "What, my Lord, shall we build
 "houses and provide livelihoods for a company of
 "monks, whose end and fall we may ourselves live
 "to see? No, no; it is more meet a great deal
 "that we should have care to provide for the in-
 "crease of learning, and for such as by their
 "learning shall do good to the church and com-
 "monwealth." The Founder, listening to this judicious counsel, enlarged his views; and, having obtained the royal licence, dated Nov. 26, 1516, to found on the present site* a College for divinity, philosophy, and arts, the members to

* Corner Hall, Nunne or Leaden Porch Hall, Nevill's Inn, Beke's Inn, and Alban Hall, with sundry attached gardens, and the garden belonging to the Bachelor Fellows of Merton, formerly occupied this site.

consist of a President and thirty Scholars, more or less, proceeded with his foundation. By the charter, dated Cal. Mar. 1516, the Bishop founds his College to the praise and honour of God Almighty, the most holy *body of Christ*, and of the blessed Virgin Mary, also of the Apostles Peter, Paul, and Andrew, and of Saints Cuthbert, Swithin, and Birin; and appoints the said College to be always called *Corpus Christi College*. By the statutes, the number of the Society was fixed at forty-seven; namely, a President, twenty Fellows, twenty Scholars, two Chaplains, two Clerks, and two Choristers^f.

The LIBRARY contains a valuable collection of theological and classical books, of controversial and political pamphlets of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, and of MSS. Amongst the MSS. are the Collectanea in several volumes of the Oxford antiquaries, Twyne and Fulman. But its chief treasure consists in an extensive series of classics printed in the fifteenth century, (many of which are *Principes Editiones*,) and particularly in the most valuable of the works which issued from the Aldine press. A fine vellum

^f The Founder very judiciously appointed two lectures, respectively, for Greek and Latin, the latter of which was open to every Oxford Student; and the Lecturer was particularly enjoined to expel barbarism from the new College.

copy of Aristotle and Theophrastus is amongst them.

Most of these specimens of early typography were left to the College by the Founder. Many of them were brought from Italy by Bishop Sherwood, the Founder's predecessor in the see of Durham: and probably Sherwood may claim the praise of having been the first person who formed a valuable Library of printed classical authors in England.

The History of the Bible in French, the donation of General Oglethorpe to the Library, is entitled to particular notice, as affording a beautiful specimen of illuminations early in the sixteenth century. The bequest of Lord Colerane, 1755, comprising a large collection of Italian books, and of drawings and prints, formed in Italy, is also of considerable value.

At the western extremity of the Library, which looks down on the Chapel, pew furniture is placed for the use of the President's family.

To the CHAPEL we now hasten. It is of a good

§ In the President's lodgings is preserved the Founder's crosier, a relic of much curiosity, but of inferior workmanship to that of Wykeham, kept at New College.

size, appropriately furnished, and tastefully, though not splendidly, decorated. The roof is of wainscot, wrought in compartments, ornamented with coats of arms, and the more prominent parts set off by gilding. The pavement is composed of black and white marble; the screen of cedar. The altar-piece is an exceedingly fine painting, by Rubens, of the *Adoration*. Five figures, the size of life, are introduced, besides the infant Saviour. This valuable effort of the pencil supplies the place of a copy, by Pompeo Battoni, of Guido's Annunciation^b, a picture in the Chapel of the Monte Cavallo palace at Rome. The painting which here supplies the place of Battoni's piece formed part of the Prince of Conde's collection at Chantilly, and is said to have cost his Royal Highness 3000 louis d'ors. Sir Richard Worsley presented it to the College in the year 1804.

Turning towards the west on leaving Corpus Christi College, we find ourselves opposite to the majestic eastern portal, now also the most frequented entrance to the College of

CHRIST CHURCH,

one of the most extensive and most splendid foundations of the kind in Europe. The portal

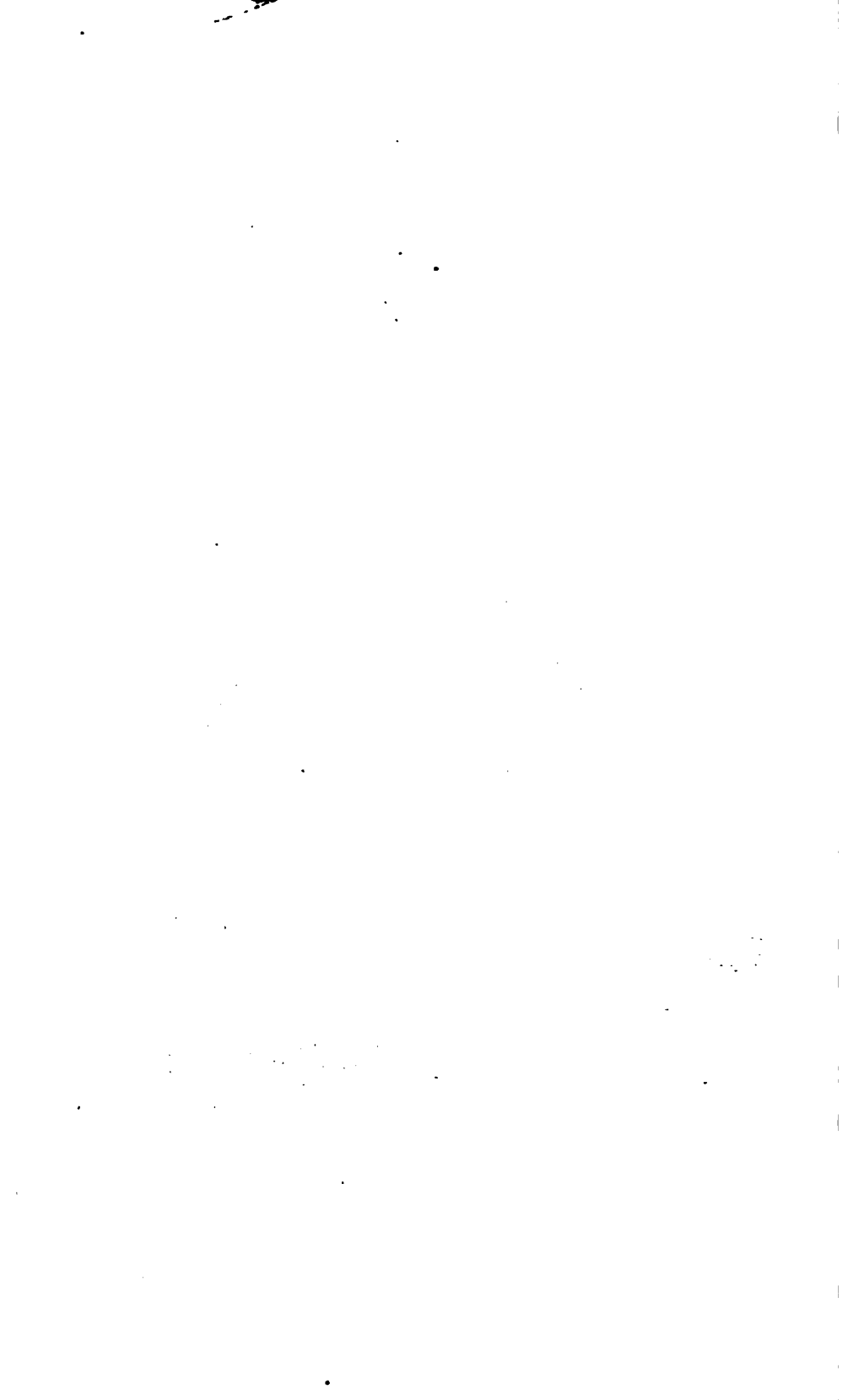
^b Battoni's picture is now in Balden church, Oxon.



Printed by the Rev. J. H. Sturt, at the Press of the Rev. J. H. Sturt.

Engraved by J. H. Sturt, at the Press of the Rev. J. H. Sturt.

CHRIST CHURCH HALL STAIRCASE.



before us, which is composed of a Doric archway of very noble proportions, graced on each side by two fluted columns, leads into a small quadrangle of modern architecture, called *Canterbury*, the present buildings of which were erected between the years 1773 and 1783, after a plan furnished by Mr. Wyatt; of whose classical taste the portal just described, uniting in an eminent degree simplicity with grandeur of effect, affords a brilliant illustration.

No part of the buildings of this court, the eastern end of the Library excepted, can be considered ornamental; but when, having passed the Library corner, the stranger enters *Peckwater Quadrangle*, he is surprised with an extended display of Grecian architecture in its most fascinating aspects. Three sides of the quadrangle, namely, the eastern, northern, and western, exhibit the graceful elegance of the Ionic order; while the southern division affords a fine specimen of the more rich Corinthian. Each of the former presents uniform ranges of apartments, comprised in an elevation of three stories. Of these, the second and third are comprehended in the Ionic order, which rest upon a rustic inferior story. Of the fifteen windows comprised in each upper tier, the central five are surmounted by a slightly projecting pediment, supported by six three-quarter co-

lums, which, with the pilasters that separate the lateral divisions of windows, support an entablature, on which rests a handsome balustrade. Beneath the cornice, on the northern side of the square, appears this inscription. *Atrii Peckwateriensis quod spectas Latus extruxit Antonius Radcliffe^b, S. T. P. hujusce Ædis primo Alumnus, deinde Canonicus.*

The whole southern side of the quadrangle is taken up by the LIBRARY, a detached edifice of a noble and imposing appearance, one hundred and fifty feet in exterior length, by forty feet in breadth. The front presents an elevation of two stories, ornamented by a series of massive columns of the Corinthian order, supporting an entablature and balustrade^c. The door-way, and the lower tier of windows, are arched. On entering this superb

^b He was the first and chief contributor: his donation was 3000*l*. Dr. Aldrich gave the design for the eastern, northern, and western sides; Dr. Clarke that for the Library. The former were commenced January 26, 1705; the latter was not begun till the year 1716, and not completed till 1761.

^c In consequence of a departure from the original plan, which was to have the front of the Library erected on an open piazza of seven arches, these columns appear to the beholder only semi-columns. The space originally allotted to the piazza, has been formed into a series of apartments for the reception of books and paintings. The Library now stands on a kind of shelving terrace; but, in the original design, an ascent of three steps ran along the entire front of the edifice.

structure, numerous pieces of sculpture present themselves in connection with the entrance-passage and staircase. Among them are busts of George I. and II. finely executed by Rysbrach; of Archbishops Boulter and Robinson; and of Doctors Frewen and Friend; the imaged countenance of Dr. Frewen, by Roubilliac, which is one of the finest productions of his chisel, is happily expressive of advanced age.

A statue, by Roubilliac also, of the celebrated philosopher Locke, who was once a student on this foundation, but was expelled by order of Charles II. on account of his political principles, occupies a niche on the staircase. The interior of the Library presents a grand and striking coup d'œil. It is furnished with a gallery, and surrounded with bookcases, containing one of the best collections of books, manuscripts, prints, original drawings, and coins, that we can boast of, although certainly not equal in either extent or curiosity to what it would have been, had the magnificent purpose of Wolsey relative to its formation been fulfilled. He, it seems, intended that the Library should comprise a specimen of *every* printed work, and copies of the most valuable MSS. in the Vatican. To the present collection the first distinguished contributor was Otho Nicholson, an Examiner in Chancery, who gave 800*l.*: but the two most dis-

distinguished benefactions were those of the Earl of Orrery, and of Dr. Wake, Archbishop of Canterbury; the former consisting of ten thousand volumes, and the latter of a library, a collection of coins and medals, and a sum of money⁴. The total estimated value of the Archbishop's benefaction was 10,000*l*. In 1765, the numismatical department of the Library received a very valuable addition, in the collection of coins, British and foreign, of Dr. Philip Barton, Canon; and again in 1780, in the oriental coins of Dr. Richard Brown, Canon and Regius Professor of Hebrew. Great elegance of workmanship is displayed in the wainscoting, the book-presses, and the ornamental stuccoing of this Library; the stuccoing in particular is not confined to the ceiling, but is very tastefully employed over the several classes of books, in well-conceived and delicately exe-

⁴ These, and numerous minor benefactions, rendered a new building indispensably necessary. From this necessity arose the splendid modern library in Peckwater, which occupies part of the site of Peckwater, Vine, Bird, and Maigen Halls. The first of these, which, conjoined with the second, was afterwards called indifferently Peckwater's Inn and Vine Hall, derived its name from one Ralph Peckwater, by whom, in 1246, it was given to Frideswide's Priory. In 1547, Henry VIII. conveyed to Christ Church the tenement called Vine Hall, *alias* Peckwater's Inn. On part of the site of Peckwater quadrangle also once stood a noted grammar-school, of which John Leland, senior, mentioned in the *Comment. de Script. Brit.* of his great namesake the antiquary, died master, in 1422.

cuted symbolical allusions to the department of literature beneath. In one of the recesses, is a bronze bust of Marcus Modius, very fine, given by Lord Frederick Campbell: the other recess contains a specimen of Grecian sculpture* of considerable merit, upon the subject of which, a female figure attended by a boy, the connoisseurs cannot yet agree. The lower rooms are principally occupied by a numerous and valuable collection of pictures, consisting of some originals, and many copies of the ancient masters, from which a tolerable notion of their different styles may be acquired. These were collected, at a vast expence, by the late General Guise, and by him, in 1765, bequeathed to Christ Church. Of these, our limits will only permit us (and we regret the circumstance) to notice a small number. In the room on the right hand, among many others, are the following: Nymphs and Erichonius, by *Salvator Rosa*; some fragments of original Cartoons, *Raphael*; Rebecca at the Well, receiving the bracelets presented by Abraham's servant, *Guido*; a dying Magdalene supported by Cherubs, *Domenichino*; the Continnence of Scipio, by *Vandyke*; with copies of some of the most noted pictures in

* It adds much to the interest excited by this genuine piece of sculpture, that it was procured by Mr. Mackenzie, a late Student of this College, on his travels, and brought from a farm on which it was discovered near Pella, in Macedonia, in 1813.

the world ; such as the Descent from the Cross, by *D. de Volterra* ; the Transfiguration, *Raphael* ; the Notte, and Cupid of *Correggio*. Over the door of this apartment is a bust of General Guise, and, over the entrance to the opposite room, one of Dr. Richard Trevor, Bishop of Durham. Among the pictures in the latter are the Caracci family, represented as *Butchers*, in order to vex his brother Ludovico, by *Annibal Caracci* ; an original sketch of the celebrated picture of St. Jerome receiving the Sacrament ; a curious half-finished cabinet picture, by *Andrea del Sarto* ; and a portrait of General Guise, half length, *Reynolds*.

Quitting the Library, we now proceed from the south-western angle of Peckwater, through an archway, into the GREAT QUADRANGLE, (as it is distinctively and very justly termed,) previously to a particular examination of which, we must request the stranger to accompany us through the great gateway, and across St. Aldate's Street, the western side of which affords a good view of the principal front of the College. This, which, for extent and grandeur, is unequalled by that of any other College in Oxford, stretches to the length of 382

^f It is well known, that the learned painter, N. Poussin, said, that the Transfiguration, *Raphael*, Descent from the Cross, *Volterra*, and St. Jerome, *Domenichino*, were the three finest pictures in the world.

feet along the eastern side of the before-mentioned street. Equidistant from the extremities of the line of front, is a noble and highly enriched gateway; above which rises a lofty tower^s, of rather peculiar architectural features, but of a stately and commanding character, forming one of the most striking objects in the varied group of spires, domes, and turrets^h, which from afar proclaim to the traveller the situation and the magnificence of Oxford. The upper part of this tower is octagonal, and exhibits on every face an elegant pointed window. Over these windows are crocketed ogee canopies, and between them square projecting pilasters. The latter are terminated by knotted pinnacles, from within which, as a crown to the fabric, springs a leaded cupola of the ogee form, the wavy lines of which draw gracefully to an apex beneath an elegant vane. Cupolas of similar form crown the gorgeous turrets which project from the line of front, on each side of the gateway. A couple of semi-hexagonal projecting turrets, with a large and elevated bay window inserted between them, form the terminations of the entire façade. To the latter, which is but

^s It was begun by Cardinal Wolsey, but only completed in 1681, by Sir Christopher Wren, who, in Lord Orford's opinion, has "caught the graces of the true *Gothic* taste."

^h It may be remarked that, independently of exceedingly fine specimens of towers, spires, and domes, Oxford may also boast among her steeples some that are unique in form.

two stories in height, greater dignity of elevation is given by a neat balustrade¹.

The vaulting of the gateway is highly decorative. Among its ornaments, are the arms of various contributors to the expence of building the tower. Within the latter hangs the celebrated great bell of Oxford, called, as very large bells usually are, Great Tom. This is by far the largest bell in England, weighing 17,000lbs. It formerly hung in the great tower of Oseney Abbey, but has since been recast; on which occasion the present inscription, *Magnus Thomas clusius Oxoniensis*, was substituted for that of *In Thomæ laude resono Bim Bom sine fraude*, which it formerly bore. Soon after nine o'clock on every evening during term, its deep note is heard summoning the students to their respective Colleges. Over the gateway, to-

¹ "A late Oxford antiquary (says Mr. Chalmers,) regrets that this front, perhaps the noblest in the kingdom of the Gothic style, loses much of its effect, on account of the declivity of the ground on which it stands, and the narrowness of the approach. He thinks it, however, probable, that a terrace walk was intended, by way of raising the ground to a level, the whole length of the College; for the rough foundation stones of the hospital on the opposite side, left unfinished by Wolsey, still remain bare, and the smooth stones are terminated by a horizontal right line, to which height the ground would have been elevated." His conjecture is right; but those rough stones appear only in consequence of the south gate of the city having been taken down, and the hill lowered; the gate stood between Brewer's lane and Christ Church.

wards the quadrangle, is a statue of Queen Anne; and, among its other ornaments, the arms of Henry VIII. Charles II. Cardinal Wolsey, and the see of Oxford.

Returning into the great quadrangle, we perceive its confessedly grand effect to be the result rather of its extent, and the apparent solidity of the buildings which surround it, than of any superior elegance in the architecture. The gateway steeple, and the northern front of the Hall, form, indeed, the only exceptions to the generally plain character of the surrounding edifices. The eastern and northern sides of the quadrangle, together with a part of the southern side, are inhabited by the Dean and Canons; the western, by Students^k. The remaining portion of the southern side is occupied by the Hall, south of which is the very ample Kitchen^l.

On the walls of the quadrangle may still be seen lines, indicative of an intention to surround the whole with a cloister, an intention which, it is

^k On the south-western corner of the quadrangle stood the parish church of St. Michael: the parish itself was united to that of St. Aldate.

^l This part of the intended edifices was first completed; a circumstance which gave rise to various sarcasms, and among the rest to the following: *Egregium opus! Cardinalis iste instituit Collegium, et absolvit popinam.*

almost needless to say, was never put in execution. From a small view, by Neale, an open battlement, with pinnacles at intervals, appears to have surrounded the buildings. To this succeeded the present balustrade, on which, at regular distances, globes of stone were once placed. The broad terrace in front of the buildings, while it forms an agreeable promenade, is also pleasing to the eye: the latter species of praise cannot however be bestowed on a circular basin of water in the centre of the area, or on the dingy statue of Mercury^m, which, certainly little worthy of its present situation, rises from the middle of the basin. To the northern, eastern, and southern divisions of the terrace, broad flights of steps afford an easy access from the lower or excavated part of the quadrangle. Over the north-eastern archway is a statue of Bishop Fell; to whose exertions, as will afterwards appear, the completion of the building of this quadrangle was principally owing, and, over that on the south-eastern corner, a statue of Cardinal Wolsey, to whom must be conceded the honour of having originally designed this splendid establishment. The latter statue was the work of Francis Bird, and is generally considered to possess considerable merit

^m The statue of Mercury was given by Dr. John Radcliffe. A cross dedicated to St. Frideswide, and a pulpit, whence the reformer Wickliffe first promulgated his anti-catholic doctrines, formerly occupied the spot where this statue is placed.

as a piece of sculpture, although, in the opinion of an intelligent describer of this College, "the expression of attitude imparted to the figure is unhappily imagined; evincing passionate pride, rather than the composed austerity which is the last result of haughtiness".

Passing beneath the arch over which Wolsey's statue is placed, we find ourselves within a porch, or vestibule, from whence flights of steps lead in different directions to the Cloisters, the court of the Grammar School, and the Hall. This porch forms a worthy approach to what is usually, and, we are disposed to think, justly, considered the most magnificent refectory in the kingdom. The porch was originally constructed about the year 1630; and, as it appears, by an unknown architect. Recently, however, Mr. Wyatt's taste has been called into exercise in altering it. The roof, which is ornamented with a profusion of exquisite tracery, arranged in circles and of fan-work, is sustained by a single clustered column, of the most delicate proportions. The porch is lighted by windows of that obtusely pointed description

^a We apprehend the Cardinal never permitted himself to be presented with a face to the front, in order to hide the loss of his eye; and the sculptor may have followed the example of the contemporary painters.

which are generally found in buildings of the Tudor, or latest English style.

An ample staircase forms the ascent to the HALL, which was built by Cardinal Wolsey; of whom, and of the steps by which the foundation of Christ Church College was gradually completed, an account may here reasonably be expected.

The lofty-spirited ecclesiastic, in whose capacious mind originated the design of a College, meant to be extensive beyond all precedent, was born at Ipswich in Suffolk, in the year 1471. The voice of common fame, echoing that of his enemies, has made Wolsey the son of a butcher; but this, although, were the circumstance really so, it could reflect no discredit on him, has never been proved, and does not seem likely to be true. That he was respectably *allied*, appears from the fact, that, about the year 1514, Edward Daundy, Esq. one of the most respectable inhabitants of Ipswich, and representative of the borough in parliament, founded in the church of St. Laurence there a chantry, in which a secular priest was to officiate in behalf of himself and relatives; among whom were enumerated, Thomas Wolsey, then Dean of Lincoln, and his late parents Robert and Jane Wolsey. Having been previously instructed in

grammar at the school of his native town, Wolsey was sent, at a very early age, to Magdalen College; where that eager desire of distinction, which afterwards ripened into an ambition too lofty and insatiate to pass without censure, but which, in this instance at least, was virtuous and laudable, stimulated him to exertions that were rewarded by a degree of arts, conferred on him at the early age of fifteen. A circumstance so unusual procured for him the appellation of the Boy Bachelor. Shortly after this event, he was elected Fellow of his College; and having in the mean time proceeded to a Mastership in Arts, he was subsequently appointed teacher of Magdalen grammar school. At the age of twenty-nine, he was presented to the Rectory of Lymington in Dorsetshire, by the Marquis of Dorset, to whose three sons he had been tutor. Not long after this, he was fortunate enough to obtain an introduction to King Henry VII. by whom he was placed on the list of royal chaplains, and afterwards, in 1508, made Dean of Lincoln; two prebendal stalls in that cathedral being added to the last named piece of preferment. The death of Henry, in the following year, proved no inauspicious event to Wolsey. Introduced from motives of policy to Henry's successor, he quickly ingratiated himself with the youthful monarch, and that so completely, that his introducer, Fox, Bishop of Win-

chester, had the mortification to behold his own influence in the royal councils wither beneath that of the very man whom he had brought in to support it.

But, even to enumerate distinctly the several steps by which Wolsey rapidly ascended to such a height of dignity, opulence, and power, as no English subject had ever before reached, would considerably exceed our limits; suffice it therefore to say, that besides receiving many inferior appointments, civil as well as ecclesiastical, he became successively Almoner and Privy Counsellor to the King, Canon of Windsor, Dean of York, Dean of Hereford, Bishop of Lincoln, Chancellor of the Order of the Garter, Bishop of Tournay, Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, Archbishop of York, and Cardinal of St. Cecilia. The last two dignities were conferred on him in the year 1514°. In 1516 his Holiness the Pope appointed him his Legate, with power, in England, equal to that of the Papacy itself. The King of Spain and the Dutchy of Milan respectively granted him a pension; and, at length, on the resignation of Archbishop Warham, he was appointed Lord High Chancellor.

° In this year he commenced the building of Hampton Court Palace, which, when finished, he presented to the King, who, in return, gave the Cardinal for a residence the palace of Richmond.

Wolsey, whose revenues are supposed by this time to have equalled those of the Sovereign himself, now assumed an almost regal state. His servants, in daily attendance, were four hundred in number. His own personal attendants were no fewer than one hundred and twenty-three, nine or ten of whom were of the order of nobility. In his chapel were a dean, a subdean, a repeater of the choir, two readers, ten singing priests, twelve singing men, ten singing children, &c. The furniture of his chapel was also inconceivably superb; and no fewer than forty-four rich copes, all of one suit, are said to have been seen worn in procession at the same time. In the midst, however, of this ostentatious display of personal pomp and splendour, Wolsey, who appears to have had ever at heart the diffusion of learning, the advancement of science, and the good of the church, while he provided, within his own mansion, for the sons of his numerous attendants, that education which would be necessary to qualify them for public life, was also engaged in planning those institutions, which, although it was not permitted him to execute his designs in the way and to the extent that he had proposed, have caused his name to be enrolled among those of the principal benefactors to their country.

In his judicial capacity, the conduct of Wolsey

is acknowledged to have been unexceptionable. He evinced an enlarged and accurate knowledge of the principles of jurisprudence, as well as a ready and penetrative judgment; and he maintained, in all his decisions, a rigorous impartiality. In 1518, the University of Oxford invested him with the power of revising and correcting the University statutes, a singular, but, as it proved, not ill placed mark of esteem and confidence.

In the year 1521, Wolsey, whose ambition appears to have always pointed thither, became a candidate for the Papal chair. In this object he did not succeed; but he received from the Emperor a grant of an annual pension of nine thousand crowns of gold. Two years afterwards he was appointed Bishop of Durham; about which time another vacancy having occurred in the Holy See, he renewed his attempt to be elected Pope. He was again unsuccessful; but he received from his more fortunate competitor, a confirmation of the entire papal authority in England. In 1528, on the death of Bishop Fox, he was made Bishop of Winchester, and resigned the see of Durham; as he had done that of Bath and Wells, on being appointed to the Bishopric of Durham. And here the list of his preferments ends. The sudden and total reverse of fortune, which has placed Wolsey's name among those

“ which point a moral, or adorn a tale,”

was now at hand. His apparent reluctance to facilitate the union of his capricious master with Anne Boleyn, drew upon him the heavy displeasure of the former; and so active was the resentment of Henry, that the end of the year 1529 saw Wolsey stripped of all his property, and even deprived of the income accruing from his preferments. To detail with minuteness the whole circumstances of his downfall, our limits forbid; suffice it to say, that the ruin was thus total. Early in 1530, however, the King appeared to relent, restored to him nearly entire his archiepiscopal revenues, appointed him to receive a yearly allowance of a thousand marks from those of Winchester, and sent him a very handsome present of money and valuables. Shortly afterwards the Cardinal received an order to repair to his diocese of York. He obeyed, and took up his residence in the castle of Cawood; where he employed himself in the exercise of hospitality, and in performing deeds of charity and beneficence. He was now beginning to taste a tranquillity, to which, amid the pomp and pageantry that surrounded him in the days of his more splendid fortunes, his breast must generally have been a stranger, when another mandate from the stern Henry, required his immediate presence in the capital, to answer to a

charge of high treason. He set out, but was not permitted to achieve the journey. On the 26th of November, 1530, he arrived at the gate of Leicester abbey; and, telling the monks that he was come to lay his bones among them, was assisted into the monastery; where, at the end of three days, he expired, having just before his death uttered the memorable and often quoted exclamation, "Had I served my God as faithfully as I have served my King, he would not have so forsaken me in my old age!" Thus was terminated the career of him, before whom, in the zenith of his prosperity, the proudest nobles had bent the knee of service, whose friendship the most powerful sovereigns had courted, and with whom the supreme pontiff himself had been content to share his authority.

Although the time and place of the Cardinal's departure are recorded, not a stone exists to mark the place where his ashes repose^a. His character

^a That great British master of the pictorial art, Sir Joshua Reynolds, selected this impressive occurrence as the subject of a painting, which has been styled "grand, fine, and highly admirable."

^a This is a very singular fact. About the year 1716 various members of the Society, and particularly Browne Willis, took great and laudable pains in endeavouring to ascertain the exact place of Wolsey's sepulture; but their endeavours were fruitless. He is, however, known to have been interred within the precincts

has been so admirably drawn by our immortal dramatist, that we cannot refrain from quoting it as an appropriate conclusion to this brief memoir :

————— From his cradle
He was a scholar, and a ripe and good one ;
Exceeding wise, fair spoken, and persuading :
Lofty and sour to them who lov'd him not ;
But, to those men who sought him, sweet as summer.
And though he was unsatisfied in getting,
(Which was a sin,) yet in bestowing, Madam,
He was most princely. Ever witness for him
Those twins of learning, which he raised in you,
Ipswich and Oxford ! one of which fell with him,
Unwilling to outlive the good that did it ;
The other, though unfinish'd, yet so famous,
So excellent in art, and still so rising,
That Christendom shall ever speak his virtue.

of the abbey at Leicester. We quote the following from a recent publication. " One John Hasloe tells me, that his grandfather, " who was gardener to the Countess of Devonshire, and lived at " the abbey before the civil wars, digging along with several " others in that part of the garden where the east end of the " abbey church was known to have stood, found several stone " coffins, the cavities of which did not lie uppermost, but were " inverted over the bodies. That among these he discovered Cardinal Wolsey's, (Mr. Hasloe forgets by what means he knew it,) " which the Countess would not suffer to be stirred, but ordered " it to be covered again ; and his grandfather laid a great heap of " gravel over it, that he might know the place, which still remains " there."

In the year 1519, the Cardinal founded at Oxford lectures for Greek, Latin, and Rhetoric. These, to which it was his intention to add several others, were read in the Hall of Corpus Christi College. Five years afterwards, he announced to the University his intention of founding a College^o, which he soon commenced on the present site; having previously obtained from Pope Clement VII. bulls for the suppression of twenty-two priories and nunneries, the estimated revenues of which were nearly 2000*l*. This sum he was empowered to settle upon his College, which, by the royal letters patent, he had permission to erect, chiefly on the site of the suppressed priory of St. Frideswide^p. By the same instru-

^o In 1527 Wolsey founded his College at Ipswich, and dedicated it to the honour of the Blessed Virgin. It consisted of a Dean, twelve secular Canons, eight Clerks, and eight Choristers; together with a grammar school. The site of this foundation, which was intended as a nursery for the Cardinal's College at Oxford, was that of the priory of St. Peter and St. Paul; a bull for the suppression of which, Wolsey had procured from the Pope, as well as letters patent for the site and estate from the King. For the farther endowment of the Ipswich College, the Cardinal procured part of the possessions of several other suppressed monastic establishments in Suffolk. Scarcely, however, had the foundation been completed, when Wolsey's disgrace involved it into utter ruin. No part of the buildings is now remaining, except the gatehouse.

^p For an account of this priory, which was one of the twenty-two mentioned above, and also of Osney Abbey, mentioned a little farther on, we must refer the reader to that part of our volume which treats of the City.

ment, the name of *Cardinal College* was substituted for that which had been previously fixed upon, namely, "The College of Secular Priests." It was to be dedicated to the praise, glory, and honour, of the Holy Trinity, the Virgin Mary, St. Frideswide, and All Saints. The secular clergy within it were to be styled the Dean and Canons secular of the Cardinal of York. Of these Canons the number was to be sixty, and that of the whole Society one hundred and sixty. The College was to be for all the usual studies.

In the year 1529-30, on the ruin of Wolsey's fortunes, this noble institution sustained a shock almost equal to dissolution; but, on the 8th of July, 1532, King Henry VIII. to whose fostering care the almost heart-broken Wolsey had a short time before his death, earnestly and pathetically recommended the College, refounded it, (by the name of *King Henry the VIIIth's College in Oxford*,) for a Dean and twelve Canons, who were to form a Chapter, or body corporate. In this state the foundation continued till May 20, 1545, when the Dean and Canons, one of whom was the celebrated antiquary Leland, resigned their charter into the hands of the King; by whom a yearly pension was assigned to each.

In the year in which the King refounded the

College, the magnificent Abbey of Oseney, in the western suburbs of Oxford, had been elevated into an Episcopal See, which, on this dissolution of the Society of King Henry the VIIIth's College, was translated from Oseney to the vacant College. The latter now assumed its present name of "*The Cathedral Church of Christ in Oxford of King Henry the VIIIth's foundation,*" and was declared to consist of a Bishop, with his Archdeacon, removed from the church of Lincoln, a Dean, and eight Canons. On the Dean and Canons all the estates were bestowed, upon condition of their maintaining public Professors of Divinity, Hebrew, and Greek; one hundred Students in theology, arts, or philosophy; eight Chaplains; and a sufficient choir.¹ As thus established, the Society has ever since continued; except indeed that an additional Studentship was founded in 1663, by William Thurston, Esq. Various sums have also been bequeathed as Exhibitions².

As few circumstances connected with so important a foundation can be deemed uninteresting,

¹ Pursuant to an order of Queen Elizabeth, an election to Studentships of Christ Church is annually held at Westminster School.

² Exhibitions are certain annual stipends, bequeathed to assist the poorer classes of Students in defraying the expences of an academical education, and held only during a limited time.

we may hope to be excused for detaining the stranger yet a little longer from his examination of the Hall, while we sketch the progress of the buildings in the great quadrangle. The ceremony of laying the foundation stone^{*}, (which was done by the Cardinal himself on the 20th of March, 1525,) was conducted with unusual pomp and splendour. When it was over, the University, &c. attended divine service in the church of St. Frideswide, where a Latin discourse was delivered by the Bishop of Lincoln from this text, *Sapientia edificavit sibi domum*. Prov. ix. 1. To the church service succeeded a sumptuous entertainment. For some time the buildings went rapidly on[†], but, at the period of the Cardinal's fall, a total suspension of operations took place. The estates set apart by the Cardinal for the endowment, not having been legally made over to the College, became the property of the King; and although, in less than three years, the latter was prevailed on to refund[‡] the Society, no farther

^{*} Of the earth thrown up in excavating the foundations, were formed the charming walks round Christ Church meadow.

[†] Nicholas Townley was master of the works, and Davy Griffith overseer. The stone was brought from quarries in the neighbourhood. The most skilful artists in painting and glass-staining were engaged, and in the different operative departments several hundreds of workmen were employed. According to a MS. in the Bodleian Library, the building expences for a single year amounted to 7835*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.*

progress appears to have been made in building, till more than a century afterwards. When the suspension took place, the Kitchen and Hall were built, and the eastern, southern, and part of the western sides of the quadrangle were also nearly completed.

A chapel too, the venerable church of St. Frideswide, being, it should seem, either not sufficiently spacious, or not sufficiently splendid, to accord with the Founder's views, had been begun on the northern side of the quadrangle¹. But it was not till 1665, that, under the auspices of Dr. John Fell, the quadrangle was completed. The ground in the centre was then deepened in a square form, the walks were laid out, and the basin was placed in the middle of the area.

Let us now take a survey of the HALL, which, as has already been noticed, was built by Wolsey, and evidently bears the stamp of his capacious mind, and magnificent spirit. Since his time, however, it has undergone some alterations², and received several partial repairs. The flooring, in particular, which is now composed of stone, was

¹ Part of its foundations may yet be seen in one of the gardens north of the quadrangle.

² One of these was in consequence of a fire, which broke out on Candlemas eve, 1719-20, and greatly damaged the roof.

originally formed of green and yellow tiles, the cost of which was 455*l*. Viewing the Hall in its present state, the ample and elegant pointed windows, especially an extremely fine one in a recess near the south-western corner of the room, the wainscotting, covered with the breathing resemblances of illustrious dead, and the lofty oaken roof, enriched with a profusion of carvings, perforations, and pendants, interspersed with gilding, must impress every beholder with admiration and delight. At the upper end of the room is an elevated portion of flooring ascended by three steps. Coats armorial fully emblazoned are ranged in profusion around the cornice. Of the portraits, a complete list of which will be found in the appendix, the following have been particularized as among the more striking. Cardinal Wolsey, an original half-length; in one corner of the picture a window, through which appears a perspective view of the Hall; King Henry VIII. whole length; Dr. Nichols and Archbishop Robinson, both by Reynolds; Lord Mansfield; the Duke of Portland; Queen Elizabeth, in an antique dress, wearing a hoop, and holding in her hand one of those curiously constructed and delicately beautiful fans of feathers, which, in her reign, were fabricated at very great expence as an article of finery; Bishop Compton, by Lely; Dr. Busby,

a very fine portrait, at his side an attendant pupil⁷; Bishops Sanderson and Smallwell; Archbishop Agar, by Romney; and Sir John Skynner, by Gainsborough.

In consequence of Christ Church having been, since its foundation the residence of our Kings on their visits to the University, this Hall has frequently been the scene of that splendid festivity, with which, in former days, it was the custom to entertain royalty. King Henry VIII. paid, in 1533, the first royal visit after the death of Wolsey; and his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, in 1614, the last. Queen Elizabeth, James I.⁸ and Charles I. were entertained here with dramatic representations, a very amusing ac-

⁷ A good bust, by Rysbrack, of this very celebrated preceptor, constitutes one of the ornaments of the Common-room, in which are also many estimable portraits. This room is situated under the Hall.

⁸ In 1621 James I. was present at the performance of Barton Holyday's Comedy of *Tixeyanus*, or the Marriage of the Arts; which, however, proved so little to his Majesty's taste, that he rose several times to go, but was prevented by the entreaties of his courtiers, who represented to him the mortification that his retiring would cause. The evident impatience however of the royal auditor produced the following epigram:

“ At Christ Church Marriage done before the King,
 “ Lest that those mates should want an offering,
 “ The King himself did offer—what, I pray?
 “ He offered twice or thrice to go away.”

count of which is given by Wood, in his Annals, who attributes, and it seems justly, the invention of moveable scenes to the Scholars of Christ Church.

Attached to this College is the CATHEDRAL of the diocese, once the church belonging to the priory of St. Frideswide; which, although it never equalled in magnitude the rest of our diocesan churches, and is greatly curtailed of its original proportions^a, yet considering the whole together, we confidently pronounce to be a building, from the examination of which the antiquary and pious admirer of church architecture will receive delight as well as information. We have the names of learned men in confirmation of our opinion, that it is truly a venerable and interesting specimen of our national architecture, notwithstanding the uninviting appearance of its exterior. The chief entrance is from a small quadrangular court, into which we descend by a few steps, leading from the eastern side of the porch already described. Along three sides of this court, which has an almost gloomy solemnity of aspect, a cloister extends. It is a circumstance much to be regretted, that, owing to the close adjacency of building, &c.

^a Fifty feet of the nave, and the whole western side of the adjoining cloister, were pulled down by Wolsey's direction, when preparation was making for laying the foundation of his College.

no good exterior view on the south side of the church can be obtained. Unlike those of the cloisters of New and Magdalen Colleges, the windows, or rather arched openings of this cloister, are wholly unfurnished with munnions or tracery.

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL is built in the usual form of a cross. Its dimensions are as follows: entire length from east to west, 154 feet; length of the transept, 102 feet; breadth of the nave and side aisles, 54 feet; height of the nave, 41½ feet; of the choir 37½; of the steeple, which rises from the intersection of the nave and choir with the transepts, 144 feet. The whole exterior of the structure bespeaks great antiquity, although the dissimilarity of style observable in various parts of the edifice proclaims them to have been constructed at different times. No documents exist, by which the date of foundation can be correctly ascertained^b; but, as a late eminent antiquary (Mr. King) observes, several parts of the edifice indicate a Saxon origin. The small towers, for instance, at the end of the northern transept, and those at the eastern extremity of the building,

^b Two celebrated antiquaries, however, Dugdale and Browne Willis, assign its foundation to the reign of Henry I. by whom the possessions of the priory of St. Frideswide were increased, and whose chaplain Guymond was appointed first prior of the Augustinian canons that were placed in the priory, after the removal of the nuns.

display small ornamental Saxon arches, turned upon round pilasters. The learned antiquary might have explained why these turrets appear so awkward and elevated above the general parapet of the structure; it is owing to the ridged roof of shingles which stood between them having been taken away, and a flat leaden roof substituted, which leaves them in that unmeaning and unsupported situation. The southern transept also exhibits small circular headed windows of the Saxon kind; besides which, the pillars of the nave, the great entrance doorway, and the entrance to the Chapter-House, are in the same style. In other parts of the exterior, the early pointed style is chiefly prevalent, although a few windows of larger size, and more ornamental character, proclaim themselves of later date. That at the end of the northern transept, for instance, was inserted between the towers before mentioned, about the time of King Henry VI.

The whole exterior of the fabric, and the northern side of the nave, the central tower excepted, is embattled. This tower, which was rebuilt by Cardinal Wolsey, in the place of a former and much more lofty one, is very massive, and terminates in a low octagonal spire, the lower part of which presents, towards the four cardinal points, a handsome pointed window, projecting perpen-

dicularly from the plane of the spire. The upper part of the tower is elegantly ornamented with a continued series of tall, narrowly-pointed arches; the two central ones of which, on each side, are larger than the rest, and have their upper sections pierced into windows. The angles of the tower swell into a kind of rounded diminishing buttresses, which support four slender turrets, ornamented with columnar pilasters, and terminating in crocketed pyramids. In this steeple are ten finely toned bells, which once belonged to Osney Abbey, and are famed as the "Merry Christ Church Bells" of Dr. Aldrich's inspiring glee. Well did their silver-sounding melody *deserve to be so celebrated!*

The interior of the *nave* is in the Saxon style of architecture. Massive columns, the capitals of which are very elegant, and exhibit that variety of embellishment for which Saxon architects so generally laboured, support large semicircular arches, by which the separation is formed between the nave and its aisles. On the southern side of the former, near the entrance into the southern transept, is an antique oaken pulpit, curiously embellished with carving, from which the University sermons are occasionally preached. In the *northern transept*, we still find the Saxon style prevalent, mixed, however, with various Norman alterations and

additions. *The choir*, is paved with black and white marble^d, and is canopied by a greatly admired roof, put up, as is generally received, by Wolsey, but, according to some, by Bishop King, the first prelate who wore the Oxonian mitre, and the last Abbot, as well as only Bishop, of Oseney. Over the entrance to the choir is a fine organ, on which the services of the church are accompanied twice every day, namely, at ten and half-past three, sundays and holydays excepted, when morning service begins at eight.

The great eastern window contains a fine painting, by William Price, after a design by Sir James Thornhill. The subject is the *Nativity*; besides which, the window exhibits portraits of Henry VIII. and Cardinal Wolsey^e. Among the other windows may be particularized the following: one in the north aisle, painted by Isaac

^d This was laid down in 1680, at which time the stalls were renewed, and most of the old windows, in which the history of St. Frideswide, &c. was represented, were removed. These were replaced by new ones, the work of Abraham Van Linge. The latter were all marked out for destruction, and some actually destroyed, by one of the fanatical zealots of the Usurpation, named Henry Wilkinson, whom the Parliament had appointed visitor. Fortunately, however, some of them were preserved from destruction, by being taken down and concealed previously to the visitation.

^e This window is said to have cost Dr. Birch, by whom it was presented to the College, the sum of 200*l*.

Oliver, at the advanced age of 84, and presented by him to the College. It represents the *Deliverance of St. Peter from prison, by the Angel*, and bears the date 1700: three by Abraham Van Linge; namely, one in the north aisle, containing the *History of Jonah*; another representing the *Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah*; and a third, the subject of which is *Christ disputing with the Doctors*. The last named window is in the Divinity Chapel.

In the first window of the southern aisle of the choir is a fine portrait of Bishop King, remarkable for excellence of execution and vividness of colouring. Coats of arms, inscriptions, and various recovered remnants of the old painted glass, are tastefully distributed among the other windows of the Cathedral; but they will scarcely attract the attention of him who shall have been engaged in contemplating the works of Van Linge, Price, &c. Viewing these works, our emotions are in perfect unison with those of the poet; and we too could exclaim,

With eagle eye transported genius views
Yon heaven-taught artists blend their hallowed hues:
Hues, that the vulgar race of tints surpass,
And breathe for ever on recording glass.
Age will but mellow the celestial stains,
While sun-beams struggle through the storied panes.

The monuments in this venerable fabric are numerous, and many of them inscribed with names which have been left with distinguished honour in life's book. Most eminent members of the Society, during the last two centuries, have here a memorial. Only a few ancient monuments, however, will our limits permit us to notice particularly. In the *Dormitory*, an aisle on the northern side of the choir, is the tomb of St. Frideswide, who died October 19, 740. This tomb is of the altar kind, and supports a lofty shrine, superbly adorned with pinnacles and tracery. Behind the shrine was constructed a small oratory, to which, as the much worn steps leading to it plainly evince, devotees resorted in considerable numbers. A monument near the shrine of St. Frideswide, commemorates Lady Elizabeth Montacute, whose effigy, at full length, splendidly apparelled in the costume of the time, is recumbent on the tomb. Among other benefactions, this lady, who died in 1353, conveyed to the priory the piece of ground called Christ Church meadow. The figure on a neighbouring tomb, of a man in armour, is generally supposed to represent Sir Henry Bathe, Justiciary of England in 1252. A fourth monument, which bears an effigy with the feet resting on a lion, is thought to be that of Guimond the first prior, who died in 1149. Another, bearing on its sides and front

the device of an inkhorn and pence, is commemorative of a benefactor to the convent, named James Zouch, who died in 1503. But on none of these five monuments can any inscription now be traced.

On the southern side of the Cathedral, and opening into the eastern cloister, is the CHAPTER-HOUSE, an exceedingly fine room, which, in the groin-work of its elegant roof, displays much of the characteristic lightness of the English style, and offers besides, in a valuable assemblage of ancient and modern portraits, a source of much gratification to the curious tourist. The construction of this beautiful appendage to the Cathedral is, by Browne Willis, referred to the age of Henry III. at which time, according to his opinion, the Chapel in which Latin prayers are read was also built. The entrance to the Chapter-House, as was intimated before, is completely in the Saxon style^f.

Quitting the venerable structure of which we have thus rapidly sketched the principal features^g,

^f The two Chapels in which the Deans and Canons are interred deserve also to be inspected.

^g The present Bishop of Oxford is the Hon. Dr. Edward Legge, who succeeded the late Prelate, Dr. W. Jackson, in the year 1816. The episcopal residence is at Cuddesden, a village about seven miles from Oxford, in a south-easterly direction. The first

and returning into the Hall-porch, we find a third flight of steps leading into what is termed the *Court of the Grammar School*; in the southern side of which, its front partially obscured by shrubbery, and wearing very much the appearance of a handsome modern dwelling house, stands the **NEW ANATOMICAL THEATRE**. It was begun to be built about the year 1776. Great part of the expence of building it was defrayed, and a very liberal stipend for the Lecturer provided, by a legacy of 20,000*l.* bequeathed, for these and other benevolent and judicious purposes, by Dr. Matthew Lee, physician to George II. The northern side of this court is formed by the Hall, which, viewed even in this direction, has an appearance scarcely less august than when seen from the great quadrangle.

The only portions of the College edifices yet remaining to be noticed are, the **CHAPLAINS' COURT**, a small quadrangle^b south-east of the

palace at this village was built by Dr. Bancroft, and finished in 1635. During the civil war the palace, so recently constructed, was destroyed, lest the Parliamentarians should convert it into a garrison. It was rebuilt by Bishop Fell about the year 1678. Like the former one, the present palace contains a chapel.

^b This quadrangle, and the adjoining buildings on the east, are built on the site of a part of the priory of St. Frideswide, the walls of the refectory of which form, it is said, part of the northern range of buildings. On part of the southern side stood an ancient chapel, dedicated to St. Lucia, which, at the time of the

great one, and some buildings which adjoin to the Chaplains' court on the east. The first of these, beneath which is carried a passage leading from the cloister to the meadows, was completed in 1672. The latter were erected six years afterwards, on the site of some houses built by Philip King, Auditor of the College, in the year 1638, and which, in 1669, had been destroyed by an accidental fire¹.

Within the extreme limits of the establishment, are comprehended excellent gardens, belonging to the Dean and Canons. The wide gravel walk, so well known by the name of *Christ Church Walk*, is also, with the adjoining meadow, a part of the College property. The former is upwards of a quarter of a mile in length. It is bordered by rows of shady elms, and affords enchanting views of the village of Iffley, and the richly cultured banks of the winding Isis.

second foundation of the College, was the place in which the books belonging to the Society were repositied. When the present magnificent Library was built, this chapel was converted into chambers, with two lecture rooms on the ground floor. Chalmers, p. 329.

¹ Besides the fire recorded in the text, we have to notice one, which broke out in 1809, in the southern division of the great quadrangle, and for some time wore a very threatening appearance, but was at length fortunately extinguished, without affecting the exterior of the building.

OUR tour of the Colleges is now completed; but there yet remain to be visited five unincorporated academical establishments, named Halls; to each of which, after a few preliminary observations, we must next pay a short visit. Previously to the foundation and endowment of Colleges, all the students who visited Oxford were lodged in houses that belonged to the citizens, and were denominated sometimes Inns, sometimes Hostels, or Halls. These Houses or Halls, each of which was under the government of its own Principal, were never, after being once appropriated to the reception of Students, permitted to receive any other destination, unless by express permission of the University. Neither could a proprietor advance his rent, without permission given so to do, after a taxation, as it was called, of the house, by two masters on the one side, and two citizens on the other, all of whom were sworn to arbitrate justly. No fewer than three hundred of these Halls are said to have been in academical occupation during the reign of Edward I. Of about two hundred of them, the names and situations of most of which, with various particulars respecting them, were recovered by the indefatigable industry of Wood, an account is given in Sir John Peshall's edition of Wood's Oxford. As Colleges were established, the number of Halls decreased. At the present day, only five remain, and one even of these has

been long deserted as a place of study. The remaining four are, however, still well attended, and some of them have been enriched by the founding of Exhibitions. Each of these Halls is governed by a Principal, whose income arises from the rent paid by the Students for their chambers. The Chancellor of the University is Visitor of the Halls, and, with one exception, nominates to the Headships of the whole. With respect to academical privileges, the Students of these Halls are on precisely the same footing as those of Colleges.

As public structures, the Halls possess little claim to particular notice. The buildings which compose them are, however, arranged in a quadrangular form, and, besides being sufficiently commodious, are, for the most part, built in a style which at once proclaim their affinity to the Colleges.

Adjoining on the east to Merton College is

ST. ALBAN HALL,

the exterior and interior appearance of the quadrangle of which, though plain, is very respectable. So lately, indeed, as the year 1789, the southern side was rebuilt by Dr. Randolph, then

Principal. The name of the Hall was derived from Robert de Sancto Albano, a citizen of Oxford in the time of King John. Contiguous to it on the west was Nuns' or Nunne Hall, so called from its belonging to the nuns of Littlemore, near Oxford; and which, being in the reign of Henry VI. annexed to Alban Hall, was, together with the latter, placed under the government of one Principal, appointed by Merton College. In the succeeding reign, the two Halls were formed into one building, which, in the reign of the eighth Henry, was granted, by the name of Alban Hall, to George Owen, that monarch's favourite physician. From Dr. George Owen, it came by two or three intermediate proprietors to the Society of Merton College, to whom the premises still belong.

On the western side of Magdalen College is

ST. MARY MAGDALEN HALL,

the neat buildings of which are almost hidden from view by a row of majestic elms, on the northern side of Bridge Street. This Hall is, by some, said to have been built about the year 1353; but others ascribe its erection to William of Waynflete, who, in 1480, established it as a grammar school, whence it was called Grammar Hall,

and subsequently, the premises having been enlarged, and students admitted on the same footing as in other Halls, Magdalen Hall. Students have ever since resorted to it in considerable numbers. The benefactions to it also have been neither few, nor inconsiderable. A grammar school, for the education of sixteen Choristers of Magdalen College, seems to form part of the buildings of the Hall; but the whole of this house of learning stands on ground which originally formed part of the site of the College, and it is still the freehold of that Society. There is now a neat Chapel and a Library, the latter of which was built, by Principal Henry Wilkinson, about the year 1656. This Principal's father also held the Headship, and was a contributor to the buildings. In the Refectory is a portrait of Tyndal, the celebrated translator of the Bible, and one of the first British martyrs.

On account of this Hall's standing in the way of those improvements which have been so long projected at the College adjoining, an Act of Parliament has lately passed, enabling the President and Fellows to take down the whole of this Hall; and when the dissolved College of Hertford shall have been put into a state of complete repair, the Principal and other members of the Hall will remove to and become established at the site of

Hertford, which will hereafter be called Magdalen Hall.

Opposite to the eastern side of Queen's College, we find

ST. EDMUND HALL,

the street-front of which, although wholly devoid of ornament, contributes, with its arched gateway and its windows of ancient form, an interesting feature to the fine architectural group, produced by the Hall itself, Queen's College and Chapel, and the ancient church of St. Peter in the East. The hoary tower and mouldering walls of the latter, partially concealed by the dark foliage of a spreading yew tree, rise in venerable dignity, and bound the prospect in front.

The western and northern sides of the quadrangle of Edmund Hall are neat and compact, but the southern side has an unfinished air. On the east, is a building constructed of stone, ornamented in front with three quarter columns, which contains the CHAPEL and the LIBRARY. The latter building only, with the ante-chapel, strikes the view, the Chapel itself extending behind New College garden. The establishment of this Hall, as a place of study, took place before

the year 1317. It was effected, under the authority of the University, by the Canons of Oseney, into whose hands the premises had come by purchase in the year 1269. The name of the Hall is derived from St. Edmund, Archbishop of Canterbury in the reign of Henry III. After the dissolution of monasteries, Henry VIII. granted it to two Oxford citizens, from whom, through the hands of two intermediate proprietors, respectively, named William Burnell, Gent. and William Devenysh or Dennyson, Clerk, (the latter was Provost of Queen's,) it came into the possession of Queen's College; the Society of which, previously stipulating with the Chancellor, that the right of nominating a Principal to the Hall should be solely and for ever vested in the College, re-established it, in 1559, as a place of study. The western side of the court was built by Principal Airay, in 1635; the Refectory and the rooms over it, in 1659. The Chapel, which is a very neat building, wainscotted with cedar, and adorned with an altar-piece representing our Saviour bearing the cross; and the Library, which has been increased by various bequests; were built in 1680, chiefly at the expence of Mr. Penton, B.D. formerly Fellow of New College, and then Principal of the Hall. The northern side of the quadrangle was repaired early in the last century. To this Hall belonged Peter Clerke or Payne, a

vehement defender of the doctrines of Wickliffe, both in Oxford and in the Council of Basil, 1435: Dr. Aglionby, who had a considerable hand in the authorized translation of the New Testament: Dr. Mill, whose inestimable edition of the Greek Testament, with various readings, was published about a fortnight before his death: Dr. Shaw, the well known traveller: and many others, who have benefited the world by their learning and publications. To this Society also belonged the late learned and zealous antiquary Thomas Hearne, who was born at Littleford Green, in Berkshire, and, through the liberality of Francis Cherry, Esq. entered of this Hall, of which he continued an inmate till his death in 1735; having, in the mean time, declined some tolerable offers of preferment^a.

North of Oriel College, on the eastern side of a lane which derives its name from the Hall, stands an ancient academical establishment, named

^a Of Hearne's extreme devotedness to the study of antiquities, the following prayer, found among his MS. papers now in the Bodleian, affords full proof: "O most gracious and merciful Lord God, wonderful in thy Providence, I return all possible thanks to thee for the care thou hast always taken of me. I continually meet with most signal instances of this thy Providence, and one act yesterday, when *I unexpectedly met with three old MSS.* for which, in a particular manner, I return my thanks, beseeching thee to continue the same protection to me, a poor helpless sinner, and that for Jesus Christ his sake."

ST. MARY'S HALL.

The buildings of this Hall, although disposed in the usual quadrangular form, possess in a less degree than any of the three previously described that peculiarity of aspect which bespeaks their academical destination.

In the south-eastern corner, however, the *hawk's eye* of an antiquary will readily detect the CHAPEL, by the form of its windows. In this Chapel, which was built in 1640, is contained (inclosed in a silver case) the heart of Dr. William King, Principal of the Hall during forty-four years. The epitaph was written by the Doctor himself, who, besides being confessedly one of the most learned men of his day, also greatly distinguished himself as a satirist, and political writer. Aided by the contributions of many noblemen and gentlemen who had received their education under his superintendence, the Doctor rebuilt the eastern division of the court. The northern side, which is allotted as the Principal's residence, was built in 1719 by Principal Hudson, on the site of the old Refectory. The southern side has been more recently improved by Principal Nowell, who was assisted in the work by the contributions of various other members of the Society.

This Hall was anciently termed the Hall of St. Mary the Virgin in Schydiard Street, by which name it was given to the Rectors of St. Mary's parish, to be occupied by them as a parsonage house. And thus it continued to be occupied till the year 1325, at which time it was converted into an academical Hall.

NEW INN HALL

stood (for we cannot with propriety use the present tense) in a lane that derived its name from the establishment*. This Hall has been, for several years past, deserted as a place of study; and now, the only remaining portion of the buildings is a house for the Principal. Its name originated in an appropriation of the premises, which appear to have consisted of several tenements, by William of Wykeham, in 1391, to New College. Previously to this appropriation they were called Trilleck's Inns, from a Bishop of Hereford of that name. From this Bishop they descended, by sundry intermediate proprietors, to the illustrious founder of New College.

The original inhabitants of the house appear to have been monks of St. Bernard, who resided in

* Formerly, however, this lane was called the Seven Deadly Sins, but whence it derived so singular an appellation, does not seem to be known.

it previously to the building of their College, now St. John's. It afterwards became a law seminary of considerable note. During the greater part of the sixteenth and at the beginning of the seventeenth century, it was in a languishing state; but, in the year 1626, Christopher Rogers became Principal, under whose auspices the character of the house rapidly revived, so that it became "not unusual to admit forty students in a year."

Between the years 1642 and 1648, a mint was established within this Hall, for the purpose of coining the plate contributed by Colleges and Halls towards supplying the necessities of the unfortunate Charles the First: "a, laudable and very seasonable proof of loyalty," says Mr. Warton, "but much regretted by the lovers of ancient art, as it destroyed many valuable specimens of curious workmanship, not elsewhere preserved, in an article which our magnificent ancestors carried to a most superb and sumptuous excess^b."

Although, after the Restoration, New Inn Hall again became a place of study, yet it gradually declined; and at length, as we have seen, became completely disused^c.

^b Warton's *Life of Sir Thomas Pope*.

^c One of the late Principals was the celebrated Blackstone.







